



Guadalupe River Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Newsletter



No. 80 January 2006

Publication Data on Pg. 12

**GRTU
General Meeting
Saturday, January 28**

**CRRC
Recreation Center
(Directions on page 3)**

**9 AM - Social Hour &
Lease Access
Orientation**

**10 AM - Business
Meeting &
Presentation**

12 - Raffle & Lunch

**12:30 - Lease Access
Orientation**

January's Meeting Features History of the Guadalupe and Fly Casting Clinic

Our next chapter meeting will be held at 10 AM on January 28 at the Canyon Lake Community Recreation Center in Sattler. (A map and directions can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.) Our speaker for the meeting will be past GRTU President Lefty Ray Chapa. He will present his slide show "The Six Flags over the Guadalupe River" covering the early history of the Guadalupe River including the details on how the river received its

name when one of his ancestors was present.

During the summer, Lefty Ray operates the Kayak 4 Redfish Guide Service in the Port Aransas/ Aransas Pass areas. Currently his website, www.leftyray.com, is one of the top kayak fishing resources for the middle Texas coast. Besides guiding on the coast, he also guides on the various rivers of the Texas Hill Country with the Nueces River being his favorite.

What's Inside

January Presentation	1
January Raffle	2
Lease Access Program	3
TPWD Off. at Meeting	3
Directions to Meeting	3
New Coldwater Fund	4
New Honorary Member	5
President's Letter	6
Board of Directors	6
Flow Report	7
Fisheries Report	9
Honorary Life Members	9
Century Club	10
Wading Relief Tip	11
HLM Fishing Day	11
Publication Data	12



GRTU Member Lathram Pou, right, caught this 16-plus pound trout in the Sapphire Valley, North Carolina area. According to Lathram, it would have set a state record, but they released the fish to fight another day.

Last year Lefty Ray's magazine articles and photos were published in several magazines, including Fly Rod & Reel, Shallow Water, Southwest Fly Fishing, and Fly Fishing in Saltwaters. This past March he received a first place award for outdoor writing and a first place award for outdoor photography from the Texas Outdoor Writers Association's (TOWA) annual Excellence in Craft competition.

Lefty Ray established the first kayak fishing school on the middle coast and is the first saltwater fishing guide to be certified as an American Canoeing Association kayak instructor. 2006 will mark his 12th year being a FFF certified fly casting instructor.

After lunch, we'll be treated to a fly casting clinic by Alvin Dedeaux. Alvin is a graduate of the first Joan Wulff fly casting instructors' school. He has been fly fishing for 29 years and has fished all over the Western US as well as Canada, Belize, Chile, and Argentina. Alvin's been guiding in Central Texas for 10 years and guided this past summer in the Vail, Colorado area. The clinic will cover the basics of loop control followed by a casting demonstration and individual help. Alvin can be reached at www.alvindedeaux.com. If you are interested in attending the clinic, please contact Ron McAlpin (ron.mcalpin@grtu.org) so he can get your name on the list. There will be a \$20 charge for the clinic, which will benefit the GRTU conservation fund, Guadalupe Now.

Tickets Still Available for Upcoming Raffle Items

At the January meeting, we will be drawing the lucky ticket for the Sage TCR nine foot, four piece, five weight fly rod that you have been buying raffle tickets for at previous meetings. This top of the line rod will be a custom rod from Dennis Freeman of Rodmakers in San Antonio. The winner will be able to have Dennis complete the rod just like you want it, or he will help you complete it yourself. Dennis has graciously donated his time and the materials for this outstanding raffle prize. He's also informed us that he will be closing his shop on Blanco Road at the end of January, but will be moving his rod making and repairing talents to his house not far away. Meanwhile, he is offering discounts of up to 60% on his "wall inventory" items such as flies and fly tying materials, so visit Dennis and stock up on some items for this fishing season.

We will be unveiling the next raffle item, an Outcast Fish Cat Cougar pontoon boat donated by Bill Higdon of Hill Country Watercraft, at our next meeting. This boat is eight feet long with dual chamber 10" diameter pontoons, a 10 piece aluminum frame, padded seat and seven foot, four piece oars. This is a great boat for the Guadalupe as it is very stable, has a good load capacity and will float in as little as three inches of water. This item will be awarded at the April meeting. Tickets for both raffle items will be on sale at the January meeting.

Also at the January meeting we will have a special live auction for a guided fishing trip on the Guadalupe for two people. This trip is guided and donated by Alvin Dedeaux, who is also doing the casting clinic after lunch. Alvin has been guiding in Central Texas for 10 years and knows the Guadalupe River very well.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our donors, Dennis Freeman, Bill Higdon, Alvin Dedeaux, and Charlie Mulcock (October meeting trip donor), for their generous support of our chapter.



Lease Access Program

By Steve Stilp - VP Membership

Our GRTU 2005-2006 Lease Access Program is in full swing. Membership entitles you to enjoy 18 entry points to park your car and have access to the Guadalupe River to enjoy fly fishing. Six of these access points are year round. Members can sign up children between the ages of 10-17 at no additional cost.

Go to our web site: WWW.GRTU.ORG and click on membership for further details. You are able to sign up online. We are looking forward to seeing you on the river.

Texas Inland Fisheries Director Joining Us for January

Phil Durocher, Director of Inland Fisheries for Texas Parks and Wildlife, will be joining us for our chapter meeting in January. Phil will give us an overview of what's happening in freshwater fisheries across Texas and provide more information on the freshwater fishing stamp and how those funds are being used. We've asked him to also let us know what GRTU can do to support TPWD and its Inland Fisheries programs. Phil has been invited to join us for lunch and to meet with our Board of Directors.



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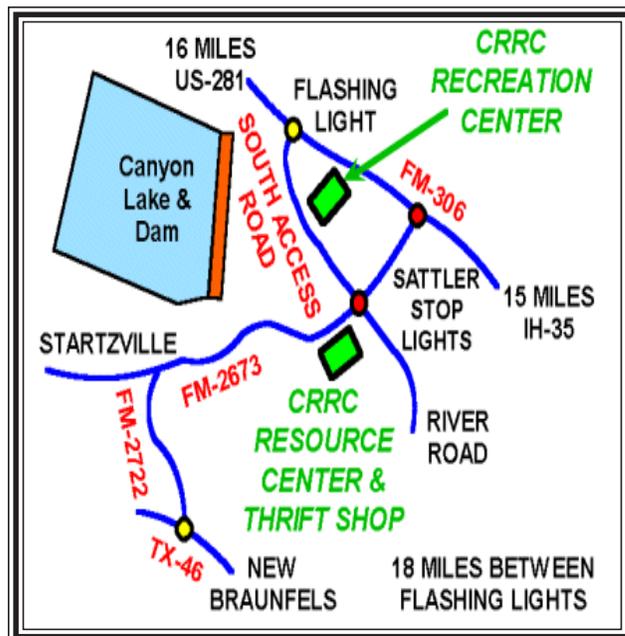
Directions to the Canyon Lake Recreation Center

>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.



GRTU Forms Coldwater Outreach Conservation Fund

The Board of Directors of GRTU has approved the establishment of the GRTU Coldwater Outreach Conservation (COC) Fund and has set aside \$5,000 in initial funding for this project during the 2005-2006 season. The purpose of this fund will be to allow GRTU to work with Trout Unlimited chapters in other areas that have coldwater fishery conservation projects that are in need of funding. The COC fund will provide funding grants to match labor contributions by TU chapters for traditional "rolling rocks" type conservation projects on more traditional coldwater fisheries.

In addition to assisting other TU chapters with conservation funding needs, the process of administering this funding process is expected to get GRTU members and leaders more involved with coldwater conservation projects throughout the US. It also provides GRTU an opportunity to expand its influence and name recognition beyond just the Guadalupe River and Texas, to all of the waters that GRTU members visit and fish during the summer. It is expected that many of the projects that will be considered for funding by the COC fund will be related to fisheries in Colorado, New Mexico and other areas of interest to GRTU members.

GRTU has made several contributions in the past to projects like the TU Western Waters Project and the TU Coldwater Conservation initiative. While these funds help coldwater conservation causes, and GRTU will continue to contribute to these projects, these contributions provide little in the way of GRTU opportunity to become involved in





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the specific project objectives or in name recognition for GRTU's contributions. The GRTU COC fund will allow GRTU members to become more informed about and involved in coldwater conservation projects and will provide name recognition for GRTU on coldwater fisheries throughout the US.

Jeff Schmitt, GRTU National Leadership Council Representative, will be leading the effort to establish guidelines for other TU chapters to apply for COC funding and a process for reviewing applications. This process is expected to be in place for the 2006-2007 season. In addition, the chapter will be putting in place a mechanism for GRTU members to make contributions to the fund. These changes should appear on the membership application by next season. In the meantime, GRTU is prepared to accept donations dedicated to the GRTU Coldwater Conservation Fund at this time and would welcome your initial funding contributions. The more funds we

raise the more projects we can potentially fund.

It should be noted that in no way will the GRTU COC fund interfere with GRTU's prime objective, which is to be the primary steward of the Guadalupe River trout fishery. This fund simply recognizes that the conservation interests of GRTU members extend beyond the Guadalupe River and the Texas border. And while the Guadalupe River will always be the prime focus of GRTU, we should never lose track of the fact that of the 4,500 members of GRTU, only about 600-800 of us are a member because we wanted a lease pass to fish the Guadalupe. The other 3,500 of us probably joined TU because we enjoyed and valued coldwater fisheries outside of Texas and support the TU mission. The GRTU COC fund will allow GRTU to participate more fully in the Trout Unlimited mission and vision;

"To conserve, protect and restore North America's coldwater

fisheries. To ensure that, by the next generation, robust populations of native and wild coldwater fish once again thrive within their North American range, so that our children can enjoy healthy fisheries in their home waters.”

GRTU would welcome your contributions to and your participation in the Coldwater Outreach Conservation Fund.

Schroeder Named Honorary Life Member

By Mick McCorcle

David Schroeder, Board Member, Webmaster, and jack of all trades, was named an Honorary Life Member of GRTU by the Board of Directors in their October 2005 meeting. In nominating, David, the following document was read to the Board by Mick McCorcle, GRTU President:

David Schroeder moved to Austin in 1998 and joined the GRTU Board later that year with the express purpose of initiating a project to have trout protective flows on the Guadalupe. David had experience with two similar projects in Arkansas and Oklahoma, and quickly put his experience and expertise to use to turn the Guadalupe into a healthier and more trout-hospitable river.

On the Guadalupe, David was instrumental in hiring lawyers and hydrologists, orchestrating a “River Defense Fund” campaign that netted over \$100,000 to support the challenge to GBRA, and negotiating agreements that led to the minimum flow guarantees for the Guadalupe through the crucial summer months.

Over the years, David has devoted countless hours working behind the scenes.

He reorganized and vastly improved the chapter website.

He created an on-line membership signup process that led to over 170 new members this past year and eases the task of signing up over 600 lease access members each year.

He created and maintains a chapter data base, personally performing or recruiting assistance to perform the tedious tasks of registering members to the chapter’s various website forums.

He maintains regular liaison with the Army Corps of Engineers, TPWD, and GBRA to inform the chapter members of water flow, temperature, and quality measures.

He conceived, promoted, obtained funds for, purchased, built, installed, and then rebuilt the Real Time Water Temperature Monitor.

David is humble, self-effacing, soft-spoken, but also knowledgeable, persistent, determined. He is always willing to do menial tasks like picking up and delivering slide projectors or soliciting raffle prizes for chapter meetings, the little things that make the chapter run more smoothly. A man of integrity and character, he clearly stands on the side of doing what’s

right, for the fish, the river, and the chapter.

David’s value and worth to the river and to TU is known far beyond the Texas border. John Ross, author of *TU’s Guide to America’s 100 Best Trout Streams*, after his visit to the Guadalupe last year, said: “There’s a real story here, and the hero of that story is David Schroeder.” When I’m at TU National, David is the one name everyone there seems to know and respect. “How’s our friend, David?” Charles Gauvin (TU CEO) will ask. “He’s a really smart guy and a valuable resource to TU.”

It is with great pleasure that I join with Bob Tuttle in placing David Schroeder’s name in nomination for Honorary Life Membership in the Guadalupe River Chapter of Trout Unlimited.



David Schroeder was recently named an Honorary Life Member of GRTU for his many contributions to the chapter.

President's Letter January 2006

It was 64 degrees when I got up this morning here on the upper Guadalupe and my wife battled mosquitoes as she watered her plants in the back yard. It's supposed to top 80 today before cooling off again. So it doesn't feel much like winter or trout season, but I prefer it to the weather up north. My former TU chapter, Lee Wulff in Chicago, will hold its annual Christmas Benefit Banquet tonight and they are expecting snow. The temperatures in the Windy City are not supposed to top 30 all week. I loved being a part of that chapter and trout fishing with them up there, but hated this time of year, since any fly I tried became a dry fly – due to the ice. And their trout season closes for five months at the end of each September.

Our unique winter trout fishery is gaining more notice, both locally and nationally. That has its

pros and cons, but it also says we must be doing something right. In addition to the write-up in the *San Antonio Express-News* that I e-mailed to most of you, there have been recent articles on the Guadalupe tailwater in several publications. Our intrepid VP of Fisheries Bill Higdon was pictured power rowing his drift boat over the weir below Fourth Crossing in *Fly Rod & Reel* and the latest *American Angler* reported on GRTU and our stocking program in its "Regional Hot Spots" column. We have the work of decades of dedicated GRTU volunteers to thank for the accolades we are now receiving.

By the time you read this letter, we should have plenty of fish in the river and may even have some spawning occurring. Our first load of trout this year included a number of mature fish that quickly cleared redds in the gravel shallows and began chasing each other intently. If our fishers and the osprey can leave them alone long enough, we might be seeing some "native"

fingerlings come springtime. If you see a redd (a circular clearing on the gravel bottom), please do not wade or fish through it. Give the trout a chance to do their thing.

2006 should be another busy year for GRTU. We have invited representatives from TU National and Texas Parks and Wildlife's Inland Fisheries Division to join us at our meetings and bring us up to date on happenings at the state and national level. In January, we'll hear from former Chapter President Ray Chapa on the history of the Guadalupe. Alvin Dedeaux will offer a fly casting clinic after the meeting.

In April, our speaker will be Frank Weissbarth, Assistant Attorney General of New Mexico. Frank is a dedicated trout fisherman, author, photographer, and charter member of the Truchas TU chapter in Santa Fe. Frank's recent book, *Holy Ghost Creek*, is a wonderful collection of essays on fishing for native trout in the small streams of Northern New Mexico. He will



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



President: Mick McCorle	1810 Cordillera Tr.	Boerne TX 78006	830-230-5506
VP Chapter Affairs: Ron McAlpin	30629 Buck Ln.	Bulverde TX 78163	830-980-8043
VP Fisheries: Bill Higdon	1854 Ponderosa Dr.	Canyon Lake TX 78132	830-964-5565
VP Membership: Steve Stilp	8406 Emerald Hill Dr.	Austin TX 78759	512-784-6013
Secretary/Treasurer: Phil Dopson	PO Box 536	Austin TX 78767	512-708-1616
Carl Bohn	718 Sweetbrush	San Antonio TX 78258	210-481-2504
Johnny Cargill	3001 McGregor Ln	Dripping Springs TX 78620	512-858-4435
Oscar Dupre	2254 Johnson Rd.	Canyon Lake TX 78133	830-964-2200
Hylmar Karbach, Jr.	15 Trail View	New Braunfels TX 78130	830-606-0737
Doug Kierklewski	13100 Tamayo Dr.	Austin TX 78729	512-250-0840
Mary Jane Nalley	1072 Caprock Hill	New Braunfels TX 78132	830-629-2303
Greg Neubauer	17411 Meadow Hgts Dr	Houston TX 77095	281-856-0546
Jim Roberts	126 Verdant St.	San Antonio TX 78209	210-826-2766
Bob Runion	46 Lewis Rd.	Boerne TX 78006	830-537-5129
Web & Database: David Schroeder	11505 Charred Oak Dr.	Austin TX 78759	512-996-8283
Advertising Mgr: James Simpson	9311 San Pedro Ave. #600	San Antonio TX 78216	210-394-4807
Newsletter: Patrick Amick	4428 Jim West St.	Bellaire TX 77401	713-667-1643
TU NLC Rep: Jeff Schmitt	2512 Star Grass Cir.	Austin TX 78745	512-282-6016
TU Liaison: Corby Bittner	9801 Stonelake Blvd #736	Austin TX 78759	512-914-8308

bring with him a couple of his gorgeous photographs to auction for the chapter. Frank has also been active in the litigation regarding the use of piscicides (fish poisons) to clear streams so they can be restocked with native trout. He'll give us an overview of the pros and cons of this controversial issue.

On the local level, Karen Gebhardt and our Education Committee hope to get a "Trout in the Classroom" pilot started this spring in one of the local Comal County middle schools, working in cooperation with Ravenstar, a group dedicated to youth outdoor education. We plan cleanups in conjunction with our stockings and also hope to get more conservation projects started on the river. One such program, suggested by lease member and TPWD employee Jason Singhurst, would involve establishing a land restoration coop with landowners along the river to plant varieties of trees and shrubs that would reduce land and bank erosion and encourage insect life along the riverfront.

So come join us at one of our meetings, at a stocking, or to help clean up or restore our special river. We look forward to seeing you on the river.

Mick McCorcle
Chapter President



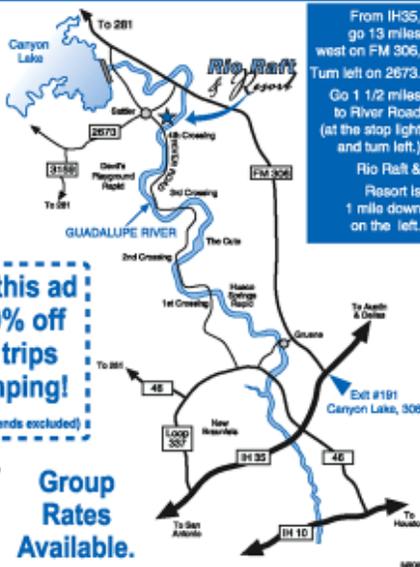
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Guadalupe River Flow Report

By David Schroeder

2005 is wrapping up and we've had a decent year for flows on the river. There was a lot of concern about water temperature this Fall after the trout protective flows ended. It was the hottest September on record- unbelievable days of 104 – 106 degrees during the last week of September! And to top it all off, October was the 5th warmest on record. As the flow agreement ended on October 1st, I had to wonder if the trout fishery was heading for a meltdown. To be sure, the GRTU water temperature

monitor recorded its highest temperature of the year at 74.9 degrees on the evening of October 4th. Three days later a cold front dropped the water temperatures to the low 60s. It looks to me that the trout fishery, from the prospect of water temperatures, survived the year.

In the Fall and Winter, the Guadalupe paradoxically becomes a warm-water stream. On December 5th, a water temperature measurement at the spillway revealed the outflow to be 66 degrees. At the same time the water temperature at the Monitor was 63 and on its way down to the mid 50s because of a strong cold front coming in. As I write this, the coldest weather of the year is at hand with a winter storm watch for the next couple of days. Canyon Lake has a profound influence on water temperatures downstream of the dam. I have found that the Lake Travis Temperature Station will give a very close approximation to the water temperature at Canyon Lake. The UT website <http://www.arl.ut.utexas.edu/omg/weather.html> will give you a profile of Lake Travis water temperatures.



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"Many men go fishing all of their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after."
- Henry David Thoreau

At the October Meeting Steve Magnelia, District Supervisor of Texas Parks and Wildlife, gave a presentation on the state of the trout fishery. TPWD has been conducting electro-fishing studies every month since the summer. It is good news that as of October, trout were showing up in their samplings as far down as river mile 8. There have also been accounts of trout being caught farther downstream. So this is indeed encouraging.

What struck me the most was the distribution of the lengths of the trout that turned up in the TPWD survey. Each year, TPWD puts the most trout in the water at 8 and 9 inches, while GRTU stocks fewer trout but nearly all are greater than 11 inches. The most common length sampled was 13 inches. The 9 and 10 inch trout virtually disappeared in the samplings. The curve shifted predominately toward the larger trout with numbers and lengths ranging from 13 up to 21 inches. It is clear that the larger trout enjoyed an advantage to sustain themselves in the river. Why this is so is not entirely clear, but it is possible that the larger trout were more successful at escaping predation, better at foraging, picking the best refuge, etc. It is very clear that the 'restricted harvest' section of river is vitally important at protecting trout. It is also noteworthy that none of the fingerling trout that TPWD stocked in June ever turned up on a subsequent survey, although there were word of mouth reports of these fish being caught into the Fall.

I spoke to Steve after the meeting. I asked him, "What is the one thing he would like to know about the trout fishery?" His response was, "To know how trout move about after stocking." Steve would like to see transponders inserted into trout and their movements monitored. That would indeed shed light on the movements. I see an opportunity for GRTU getting involved in answering this question. I think it is clear that trout have a tendency to move downstream. There are some things we know, but there is a lot of speculation. Where and when they are stocked could influence their movements. In my experience on the trout streams of Oklahoma and Arkansas, trout will move to places that best suit their habitat needs for the flow levels. Although we have no control over the flows, it may be possible to discern that certain stocking locations are better at holding the fish nearby- then, again, maybe not. We'll never know unless we find out.

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Fisheries Report

By Bill Higdon

By the time you read this, there will be over 6000 trout stocked on the GRTU lease sites. This is stacking up to be one of our best years in a long time for the fishery. The flows are perfect for wading, we have 16 great leases, and plenty of fish in the river.

A couple of firsts for this season: One is a brooder program to get sexually mature fish in the water with a small window of risk for the fish before the spawning period. We released over 650 brooders into areas that are conducive to spawning during the prime spawning time for these tenacious Missouri raised trout. The good news is the fish were pairing up within 15 minutes of release. I'm confident we will have some stream-born trout in the coming year. If the program is successful, it will be a major accomplishment for the fishery.

Another first was the release of several big trout (5lbs +) to really give the anglers a shot at a real trophy in the trophy zone. These fish were stocked in mid December. Part of the fun of fishing for a trophy is the hunt. So you will have to figure out where they are.

The river is really making a comeback after the record temps killed most of the trout a couple of years ago. We are seeing scuds beginning to come back in the upper river near the dam and new vegetation

is also making a good comeback throughout the river.

To wrap up I'll mention a couple of projects that the fisheries committee is working on. GRTU is working with WORD (Water Oriented Recreational District) to reach our goal of providing a clean river for visitors through the primary trout fishing season. WORD will provide additional cleanup with the understanding that GRTU will commit about 20 days per year of voluntary clean-up. So we will be looking for volunteers in the near future to help with river clean-up.

The second project is striper removal. We are looking at several options for removal. One would be tournaments to legally remove striper which would include drawings and prizes for participants. Second would be a proposal to TPWD to participate with us to remove the striper from the river. We could provide boats, volunteers, and containers if they would provide shocking equipment and personnel to help us relocate the fish back to the lake. These are only ideas in progress and we have no commitment from TPWD at this point. We are open for suggestions if you have other options (that are legal).

And last but not least, I would like to thank all the people who participate in the stocking. We could not do it without you. Thank You, Thank You, Thank You !!!!!!!

I look forward to seeing you on the river.

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
David Schroeder
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

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 2005-2006 season. Please note: This list is only current as of press time; we apologize to members added after that date.

David Baird
Leslie A Barkis
Erik L Bataille
Duane V Brandt
Alan V Bray
Eric Burnett
Walter R Carver
Sam Castleberry
Mark Cavender
Russ Coleman
Michael W Collins
Dennis Colvin
Thomas Coopwood
Phil Dopson
Frank Estes

Jay Forrest
Karen Gebhardt
James P. Halbert
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Lloyd Mathews
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Samuel Pate
Douglas Ragsdale

Gordon Richardson
John Richardson
Jim Roberts
Bill Russ
Cyndie Schmitt
Jeff G Schmitt
David Shindeldecker
Charles Simms
Kermit V Speeg
Stephen K Stilp
James Timms
Doug Wage
John Webb
Jeff Wooley



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 G.Loomis. 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!

A Handy Wader Tip to Provide Relief

By Rus Schwausch

Until every wader comes standard with a good water-proof zipper for easy relief of those bladder based urges during your day of fishing, here is one tip to help alleviate all that unnecessary undressing. Sorry ladies, this works for male fishermen only.

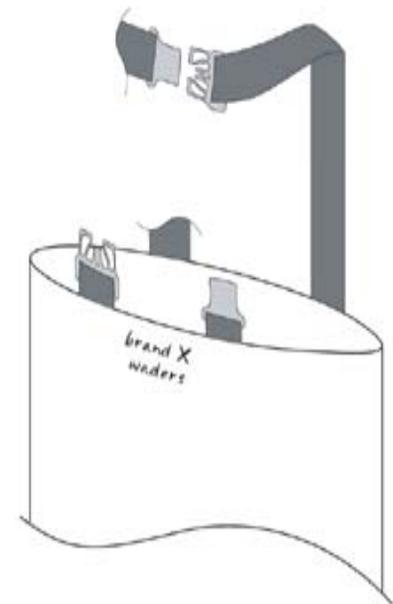
Many waders come now with opposing buckles on the end of each shoulder strap. That is, one shoulder strap will have a male buckle on its end, the other shoulder strap a female buckle. Check your shoulder strap buckles to see if they will snap into each other. If they do, you are about to learn a great

time saving trick. If not, you will have to continue the usual undressing routine before taking a leak during your day of fishing.

Next time you need to relieve yourself, unbuckle the shoulder straps from the front of your waders. Instead of letting go of the straps, take the opposing buckles from each end and attach them together, forming a collar in the front of your neck as shown in the drawing. Now you can pull down the front of your waders to take a leak while backpacks and coats remain on your back, and your shoulder straps will not fall backwards out of reach.

Undo your strap collar, reinsert buckles as normal, and keep fishing. Enjoy.

Insert opposing buckles from the end of each shoulder strap to form a collar in front of your neck.



Honorary Life Member Fishing Day

The Board of Directors of GRTU has designated Saturday afternoon, April 22, following the GRTU meeting, as Honorary Life Member Fishing Day (weather and river conditions permitting). All GRTU Honorary Life members are hereby invited to participate in an event in their honor.

The plan is to convene as many boats as possible at the Rio Raft put in after the GRTU meeting. A call to all Guadalupe River guides and GRTU members with a boat that would be willing to assist with the event is hereby issued. We can also use the assistance of other GRTU members willing to help with put-in, take-out, refreshments and on the water assistance.

When we fish the Guadalupe River today, we fish what was the vision of a small group of founding members of this organization back in the early 1970's. Many of these members are still a part of this chapter, although some find it difficult to get on the river and enjoy the fishery they built. April 22, Honorary Life Member Fishing Day, is our opportunity to recognize our Honorary Life Members and to help them enjoy a day on the river they love.

Jeff Schmitt will be coordinating the event. If you would like to participate, please contact Jeff at jeffs@prodigy.net or at 512-282-6016.

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With regard to your membership, change of address, not receiving *Trout* magazine, or other matters, write, phone, or E-mail:

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12 noon - 5PM Eastern Time