

DRIFTERS DRIFT

NEWSLETTER OF THE HIGH PLAINS DRIFTERS

APRIL 2011



www.hpd-fff.org



FLAPJACKS AND FISH TALE'S

2011 Board

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Membership;
Bob Appenzeller
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Mentoring ;
Marshall Estes
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Fund Raising;
Jon Nash
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Library;
Leon Solomon
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Newsletter;
Steve Hall
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Programs;
Gary Hort
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Trips;
Larry Lester
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Webmaster;
Tim Papich
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FFF Liaison;
James Baird
303-925-1688

About 2 dozen HPD members gathered at Mike Owen's cabin early on Saturday March 19 to consume pancakes, scrambled eggs, OJ and coffee. Mike, his wife Cathy, Larry Lester and Brett Edwards did the shopping and prep work to pull this off and they did a great job. Michael Mason, Steve Simms and Leon Solomon took on clean up chores. Mike provided fishing tips for those of us not proficient in angling on the South Platte. A big thank you to the Owen's family for again sharing their cabin for this event. Brett spent some time seining the river and collected an interesting variety of stone fly's, some large crane fly larva, mayfly and baetis nymphs and several net builder caddis larva.



NEWS FROM THE BOARD

Starting this month, the board members will post an article letting you know what we've been up to the past month. We hope this will not only give you an update, but maybe stimulate a thought, idea or comment on your part. We'll try not to repeat other notices and information you might get about trips and events in this newsletter or by separate email notices.

First off, last year we decided to try to make it easier for members to join the board who might not be able to attend all board meetings. We agreed that the first month of each quarter the entire board would meet, but in the intervening months, only the executive committee – consisting of the president, past president, vice president, secretary and a floating board member would meet. All board members are welcome to join every meeting, and most of the time they all do!

At our last (executive committee) meeting, we agreed that we needed a larger storage unit, as the one we rented last year is packed to the gills and we have more donations coming in. So, we will now have a 5x10 unit, and by selling off some of the books and fly tying materials that have been donated to us, we should have adequate space for our remaining books, raffle items, banners, club rods and reels, and supplies for our various events.

With some specials they were running and by paying annually, our total monthly cost is about \$61.00

We are kicking around the idea of putting up a separate booth at the fly fishing show next year. This is our main recruiting event for new members, and the FFF booth must give equal time to the 3 clubs in the area to man the booth which has been set up alongside the FFF booth. That means we only get one day to recruit for HPD. If HPD has its own booth we will have the 3 full days to recruit new members. Additionally, by having a separate booth, we have two opportunities to enroll members in FFF, too. We'll let you know in upcoming articles how this works out. Let us know your thoughts on this as well.

This year we decided to have our picnic at a closer and more “family-friendly” location. Larry located a place for us in the heart of Lakewood, 2900 S. Estes, that sits in a very nice park and is only about 50 yards from Bear Creek. There is a pond with bass and sunfish right next to the building. The picnic will be from 6 PM – 8 PM, Thursday, July 14th. We felt this would work better because it's close in, in the evening during the week so it won't interfere with family plans on a weekend. We'll give you more information as we get closer to that date.

We are looking at ideas for other fundraising efforts for the club, as well as other outreach programs. Marshall and Brett will be teaching a fly fishing class at Foothills Rec Center late summer, and of course we will be putting on Kid's Day and participating with Warren in the Acres Green project. We'd love to hear your ideas for other fundraising events, outreach – especially with youth – and what other benefits HPD might consider offering to the members.

That's about all for this month. If you have questions or comments, you can email me directly at michael@flyfisherpro.com.

DON'T FORGET, FISHING LICENSES EXPIRED THE END OF MARCH

HPD AT THE BASS PRO SPRING CLASSIC

BY BRETT EDWARDS

The High Plains Drifters club members have provided outstanding fly tying demonstrations for the Bass Pro Spring Classic in years past. This year Simone Geoffrion, Bass Pro Events Coordinator, ask us to staff the Learning Center at the Classic which meant we needed to ramp up our participation to include short casting lessons, knot tying, kids fly tying and providing general information about fly fishing in addition to our ongoing fly tying demonstrations. A call went out to the members for help and these individuals volunteered their time and diverse fly fishing skills to make this event fun, interesting and educational for many attendees at the Classic:

James Baird, Geoffrey Bostic, Bill Cronin, Marshall Estes, Jeff Jablonski, John Jarvis, Virgil Kelleigh, Mike Kuberski , Tim Papich.

Thank you all for representing HPD and promoting our wonderful sport.

Bass Pro provided name tags, very nice signage, rods and reels for casting, fly tying tools and materials for the kids table, discount coupons for merchandise and food and plenty of snacks and water. Simone asked HPD to do it again next year! We had ample opportunities to promote HPD, FFF and Kids Day while we handed out HPD and Kids Day flyers and applications. We hope to see some of our contacts at a meeting or kids day in the near future.

Submitted by
Brett Edwards
Event coordinator

THIS MONTHS MEETING & PROGRAM

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 20 social hour 6pm, program 7pm
AT RED & JERRY'S, OXFORD & SANTA FE
WAY BACK IN THE 'FANATIX' ROOM**

ERIC ANDERSON ON THE BIG HORN RIVER

Eric Anderson grew up in Denver fishing the front range. He attended the D.U. but left halfway through to move to Fort Smith, MT to work on the Bighorn River. Eric is in his 7th season on the Bighorn and owns the Bighorn Angler which is a shop and lodge in Fort Smith. He spends his off-season in Colorado where he owns The Denver Fly Shop

FLY TYING MATERIAL WILL BE ON SALE; cash only

Where will the Caddis Hatch be on April 29th?

Our next trip for HPD members and their guests will be April 29th to May 1st as we shoot for a chance at the famed Caddis hatch that will have begun its way up the Arkansas River from Canon City toward the beautiful Salida area where we will be staying. If you can make it for all day Friday, Saturday and Sunday great, but if your schedule only permits one day of fishing we will be meeting both Saturday and Sunday morning at the Patio Pancake Place (640 E. Rainbow Road) at 7:00 a.m. to one beat the crowds and two get out on the river early enough to have a full day slamming those browns and rainbows.

Because the caddis hatch is the main attraction on the Arkansas we do talk about it a lot, but if we get lucky there can also be some great BWO hatches. And as we heard from our last guest speaker if you do not want to fish the Arkansas there are other creeks and lakes around to give you plenty of action.

The American Classic Inn (719-539-6655) located across the street from the Ark Anglers shop (7500 West Hwy 50) has once again cut us a better rate. Just mention to Andy the owner that you are with High Plains Drifters. His rates are less than \$50 plus tax. At 525 W. Hwy 50 is the Super 8 (719-539-6689) and their rooms are listed around \$67.00 for a room with two queen beds. Tim Papich is seeing if he can get a friend to cut us a deal at the Holiday Inn, but no word yet. The American Classic is a no frill place, but I have found the rooms to be suitable and clean. Currently both places have rooms available.

We haven't made final plans as to where, but we will have a gathering Saturday night to swap stories and toast another great (we hope) day on the water. Last year and the years past we have had 10 to 15 members and this year looks like we will top that number based on the way the signup sheet is looking. Remember all guests MUST sign the HPD liability release form. With gas prices going up let's try and do some car pooling and pair up to share room costs. Contact Larry Lester at 303-793-0056 or larry.lester@hotmail.com to sign up, volunteer to drive or seek a ride, find someone to share a room with and to receive updates.

Editor's note; I like to camp when I stay in Salida at the BLM land next to the East Salida boat ramp, right on the river. It is free but no hook up's. There is a new outhouse at the boat ramp. The 4 Season's RV park is next to this area. www.fourseasonsrvresort.com



OTHER UPCOMING TRIPS;

April 9th to 12th – Fishing the Green River with lodging at the Flaming Gorge Resort. Ref the Feb & March newsletters for details

June 3rd to 5th – North Park/Delaney Buttes Lakes. Fishing the area streams/ivers or the lakes. Saturday night get together.

June 18th – Kid’s Day. Volunteers are needed. Robin Knox will be overseeing this event.

July 14; 6 to 8 pm- Club picnic. Ref the board report on page 2, more details to follow

IF YOU HAVE NOT YET FILLED OUT YOUR HPD SURVEY PLEASE DO IT NOW;
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2N28SDL>

May 7, 9am to 4pm Blue Quill Angler Spring Event <http://www.bluequillangler.com>
Speakers-Pat Dorsey-Landon Mayer-Kerry Carrigan-Steve Schweitzer-Bob Dye

Reps:Sage, Fishpond, Rio, Reddington, Umpqua, Action Optics, Outcast,Waterworks,
Lamson, Brodin Nets
Simms, Idylwild Flies, Solitude Flies

Casting Analyzer to help analyze your cast, Casting Contest, Casting Lessons

Orvis’ 46 national stores will be running a basics of fly fishing class – FF101, in each of their stores May through July. The Orvis store at Park Meadows (www.orvis.com/parkmeadows) is looking for two volunteers per event date. Orvis is hoping to teach the basics of fly fishing to over 8,000 people nationwide with this free event!.

If any HPD members would like to volunteer to teach at any of the events, Orvis will allow us to hand out brochures or membership information in FFF and HPD, and would be free to talk up HPD with the students. Additionally, all volunteer instructors will receive a \$25 Orvis coupon as a thank you for their participation.

Students will get a two-hour instruction session including a 1 hour casting session and a 1 hour equipment/knots session. The idea here is to get them enough knowledge to go and fish without relying on help from a guide or more experienced fisher. All students will also receive a complimentary 1-year TU membership and a \$25 Orvis coupon.

The dates and detail can be found on Orvis’ website, www.orvis.com/parkmeadows, and follow the Fly Fishing 101 link from there. They emphasize they don’t need expert instructors, just lively folks who are comfortable teaching the very basics needed to get started.

LARRY FORWARDED THIS EMAIL FROM GEORGE KRESS FROM HIS TRIP TO TEXAS;

Hello Doug & Larry:

As you know Judy and I are down here in south Texas. Since the 1st of March the weather has gotten better and is more like what we came down here for. See attached pictures.

Doug we are staying in a RV park called Long Island Village in Port Isabel which is about 23 miles NE of Brownsville. We are not close to Ray & Joann. On March 3rd we went fishing in the gulf and caught the red snappers in the pictures.

The 1st picture is of a small town south of Amarillo that we went thru on the way down. The 2nd was taken on Feb. 12th.. The first day that we where able to take a walk on the beach (we got down here on the 1st of Feb.). The 3rd is of the harbor at Port Isabel (sunset).

We Hope that everyone is fine. See you at the April club meeting??????????????????

George& Judy

