

DRIFTERS DRIFT

NEWSLETTER OF THE HIGH PLAINS DRIFTERS

SEPTEMBER 2011



www.hpd-fff.org

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FLY FISHING CLASS REPORT BY MARSHALL ESTES

High Plains Drifters held a 4 day fly fishing class for adults at Foothills Recreation District Peak Facility in August. Instructors were Marshall Estes and Brett Edwards.

The class consisted of 5 students. Classroom sessions were 3 – 1 ½ to 2 hour sessions. Subjects taught were angling etiquette, catch and release techniques, reading water, the 4 Ps to successful fly fishing, knots, how to rig your fly rod, roll casting and overhand casting among others. The last day was on water at Lake Lehow. On water subjects were line handling and exposure to advanced mending such as the reach mends, wiggle casts, S mends, stack mends and the flop mend.

Four students caught at least one fish. Everyone improved their casting during the day on water. At the end of the class, students were presented with a Certificate of Completion courtesy of Brett Edwards and a copy of Marshall Estes' Book "Successful Fly Fishing for Trout"



FLY FISHING CLASS IN ACTION

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SEPTEMBER MEETING ON 9-21-2011

MEET & GREET SOCIAL HOUR AT 6 PROGRAM AT 7

CLINT PACKO WITH FREESTONE OUTFITTERS

STREAMER TECHNIQUES

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OCT 8 DAY TRIP TO BLUE RIVER

CONTACT TRIP CHAIRMAN LARRY LESTER OR GO BACK AND CHECK THAT EVITE INVITATION SENT VIA EMAIL ON SEPT 9. YOU CAN VIEW IT BY [clicking here](#)

HPD 2012 Trips

To all HPD Club Members -

The recently formed HPD Trip Committee (George Brown, Tom Caprio, Michael Conger, Doug Geerdes and Larry Lester) needs your input and support as we start building the best fishing club sponsored trip offering around. The recent survey conducted by the HPD Board indicated HPD club members wanted trips (both day and extended and both close to home and farther away). I have to say trying to work this all together may be hard to do, but having held the position of Trip Planner doing what you ask is more than one individual can handle. Therefore, when George Brown stepped forward and volunteered to take over trips we organized the Trip Committee so George and those who take over this position in the years to come will have in place a system that makes this position enjoyable and finds the membership supporting the trips .

So what are the committees' plans? Our first goal is to have ready by the HPD Christmas Party a carefully thought out list of trips for 2012. What will we be considering?

Goals for both the schedule and the trips themselves:

Destinations: we want to introduce new destinations and then rotate in every once in awhile areas we have gone previously.

Dates: we will plan trips based on dates that work for conditions/ hatches although some destinations would have priority on times (example: the high country only works during certain dates whereas tail waters can work most of the year).

Variety of trip durations: 1 day to week long trips.

Diverse schedule: we want to meet the needs of a variety of fishing interests including lake fishing (small and large), rivers (small and large), species (cold and warm), backcountry, backpacking, car camping/trailering, in state and out of state.

Good value/ better pricing: for club members vs. what they can do on their own: 'group' rates when available, shared expenses on lodging, gas, etc.

Social: we want to schedule several get-togethers during the trip plus interaction prior. This allows participants to get to get to know each other and helps new and old HPD members feel more comfortable and get involved. Fish together when possible. Share information on flies/hot spots, etc.

Scheduling: leave 2-3 weeks minimum between overnight trips to allow for more participation and to try and avoid conflicts. Insert 1 day trips that also offer a diverse schedule, but are do able in one day. Our goal is to set the schedule for overnight trips by the Christmas party so people can sign up and plan early for these trips.

Marketing of trips: Promote trips on website, via email, at meetings, etc. Promote trips early and often.

Organization: strive for early trip signup and commitment to make things easier on the trip captain. Have a payment schedule /deadlines in place.

Create procedures: for trip captains to follow to make the trip a success including trip setup, marketing and promotion, trips insights such as flies to bring, directions to the site, places to fish, etc

What are we trying to accomplish? High Plains Drifters was formed with the intent of gathering fly fishers together who liked to both fish and enjoy the company of others. It is the feeling of the Trip Committee that both new and older members of HPD want this experience and many have found it, but reading the results of the survey we need to do better. So for starters we would like to hear from all of you. Both positive and negative feedback is what we will depend on as we build this program.

Trip Captains Yep, you knew it was coming - we need trip captains to make this work. I can easily name 10 HPD members who have favorite destinations they love to fish that are not in our back yard. So by **September 26th** we would like to hear from those who are willing to captain a trip next year. Simply tell the Trip Committee in a short paragraph or two, where, when, and why this spot would be a good destination. **We can not make this work without you.**

Trip Captain Responsibilities to include:

Provide to members a trip description and why it's a good place to go. Include pictures, etc.

Arrange or ask trip committee for help in planning lodging/camping and obtain pricing.

Promote trip on website, at meetings, emails, etc

Signups/ collect money as needed

Fly selection list for pre-trip planning along with a list of any special stuff to bring.

Coordinate car pools, meeting locations,

Coordinate the 'social' activities during the trip

Contact trip participants pre-trip

Help new people meet others

Match those new to the sport with a club member who has time on the water.

Prepare a short paragraph or two after the trip on who went and fishing results

So please let me hear from those who would like to be a trip captain in 2012. I know little about the Roaring Fork and Frying Pan, but if the committee decides this would be a good destination I am offering to be the Trip Captain so step up guys the ball is in your court - volunteer, share what you know and help the club while have fun doing it. If you would like to lead a trip, but like me you are willing to learn as you go just say "sign me on" and let us know the month and how many days you are good for and we will contact you with ideas.

We also know the word "trip captain" can scare many a good man so the Trip Committee wants you to know we are willing to help in any way we can to make the experience a good one so that next year or the year next you will be more than willing to do it again.

So this is our plan. Trip schedule by the Christmas Party on December 3rd with a variety of destinations geared to spark your interest. Looking forward to hearing from all of you who are willing to help the committee and George Brown make 2012 and each year that follows a great year of fishing. Please reply to larry.lester@hotmail.com no later than September 26th.

Thank you in advance for your support and help and I look forward to fishing with everyone

.Larry Lester HPD Trip Committee

Trappers Lake Trip Report

By Larry Lester

HPD members Steve Cole, Tom Caprio, Rick Reynolds, Jerry and Andrea Rogers, Steve and Sandy Simms and myself spent a few days enjoying the Flat Tops Wilderness area last month. Steve and Sandy traveled up on Thursday and staked out a nice area so Tom and the Rogers could camp close by. Steve Cole, Rick and I shared a cabin which we really enjoyed on Sunday when the rain decided to stick around for the day.

The fishing was average for a few of us and good for others. The cuts in Trappers decided to stay below surface for the majority of the time so we missed the slurping action that was around last year, but below surface when they and the Brookies hit you definitely knew your fish was on.

Saturday all but the Rogers who came up to Trappers later that day made the hike up to Little Trappers. The hike itself did not slow anyone down and the wildflowers were spectacular making the hike even more enjoyable. Little Trappers again didn't fish as well as it did last year, but Tom and I using belly boats had a more productive day than the others who fished from shore. With any trip it is always a guessing game as to what time of the year will make the trip spectacular.

Friday and Saturday nights were spent around a camp fire and talking about the days experiences. Like I mentioned Sunday was pretty washed out by the rains so the Lodge was where we headed for dinner. Good food there and a berry pie that was well worth the price.

All in all we had a good time and enjoyed the fish that we both landed and had on for those few seconds. Looking forward to fishing the area again.





LARRY LESTER SNAPPED THIS PICTURE OF AN HPD CLUB MEMBER OUT FOR A WEEKEND DRIVE. ANY GUESS ON WHO IT IS?

FLY FISHING RESOURCES & LINKS

[WWW.HPD-FFE.ORG](http://www.hpd-ffe.org) THIS IS THE CLUB WEBSITE, CHECK IT OUT

[WWW.MIDCURRENT.COM](http://www.midcurrent.com) OFFERS A FINE FREE FLY FISHING NEWSLETTER

I LISTEN TO THIS ORVIS PODCAST; <http://www.orvis.com/intro.aspx?subject=4047>
YOU DON'T NEED AN IPOD, YOU CAN LISTEN TO IT ON YOUR COMPUTER

THIS LINK FROM BLUE QUILL ANGLER HAS GOOD TIPS;

<http://www.bluequillangler.com/Pat-Dorseys-Corner/Articles-by-Pat>

HPD IS ON FACEBOOK;

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/High-Plains-Drifters-Federation-of-Fly-Fishers/129830533716942>