

## From the Editor

### Yes, Finally, It's Officially Spring!

#### Did you purchase your 2015 Fishing License yet?

On **April 1<sup>st</sup>** we will kick off the month with our monthly business meeting followed by a **Beginner's Session and Free Tie**. The second week on **April 8<sup>th</sup>** will feature **Ken Monk and Rick Lang** with a presentation on **Tenkara Fishing**, how to set up your equipment from rod tip to hook. **April 15<sup>th</sup>** will be a presentation on **Grayling Populations** in the province as a whole, with our guest speaker, **Michael Sullivan** of **ESRD**. A presentation on **The Bow River** is on the agenda for **April 22<sup>nd</sup>** with our own club member and **Bow River** expert, **Barry White**. On the last Wednesday, **April 29<sup>th</sup>**, **Ken Monk and Jim O'Neil** will provide us with an update on the **Grayling Survey** that many of our club members have been involved in.

This year's "**Learn to Fly Fish**" course with **Rick Lang** will be held from 9:00 to 5:00 on Saturday, April 25, at the club. Please pass on the word to anyone who is interested in knowing more about this great sporting activity that we share. For those who cannot attend the April course, Rick has scheduled another session at the Lions Seniors Center 11113-113 Street from 9:00 to 5:00 on Saturday, May 23. The course fee is \$60.00. Tickets can be purchased at the club.

Mark your calendars for Thursday, May 7, 2015, **Trout Unlimited Canada's 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Edmonton National Conservation Banquet and Auction**. The Reception starts at 5p.m. & Dinner at 7 p.m. at the Chateau Lacombe, 10111 Bellamy Hill Road, Edmonton. For on-line tickets visit [www.tucanada.org](http://www.tucanada.org). **Dick Slobodian** is coordinating the club volunteers for this event.

**The Club Library** – **Terry Dyck**, our librarian, has requested that any items taken out for over 30 days are to be returned ASAP as he is taking an audit/inventory of the library items.

**Split-cane Raffle Tickets** are available from club members.

**Tiger Trout are coming to Alberta!** The club meeting on March 27<sup>th</sup> with a presentation from Dave Park, Fisheries Biologist, ESRD, was very well attended with over 40 members present. Dave's presentation was very informative as he gave the facts from a fish biologist's point of view. The information he presented helped those in attendance to better understand the biological reasons for the decisions that are presented from a Fisheries Management's perspective. Dave shared with us the addition of **Tiger Trout**, at the hatchery and they will be added to the 2015 Alberta fish stocking program. The tiger trout is a sterile hybrid cross between a female brown trout and a male brook trout.

*John Marple*

## Club Meetings – Wednesday's at 7:00 P.M.

**Queen Mary Park Community League**  
Equipment and Materials:  
The format is Informal Drop In

**10844 – 117<sup>th</sup> Street, Edmonton**  
Bring your own or use the Club loaners.  
Coffee served, plus a weekly 50/50 draw

## Contacts

### President

**Dennis Southwick**  
(780) 686-6533  
vicepresident@nlft.org

### Vice-President

**Dave Murray**  
(780) 473-6293  
vicepresident@nlft.org

### Secretary

**Alex Molenkamp**  
780-850-0232  
secretary@nlft.org

### Programs

*(Volunteer needed)*

**Dave Murray filling position**

program@nlft.org

### Outside Programs

**Dick Slobodian**  
(780) 464-3266  
program@nlft.org

### Treasurer

**Karen Harris**  
(780) 417-2127  
treasurer@nlft.org

### Library

**Terry Dyck**  
587-983-6848  
library@nlft.org

### Newsletter

**John Marple**  
(780) 405-3445  
newsletter@nlft.org

### Club Website

<http://www.nlft.org>

## Membership

**\$40.00**

January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>

*Or on TU renewal date*

### Benefits Include:

- Fishing Presentations and Fly Tying Sessions
- Monthly newsletter
- Fly Fusion Magazine
- Club event discounts
- Selected retailer discounts (card)
- Access to large club library
- Fellowship of fellow fishers
- Tying and fishing "secrets"

### Membership

**Skylar Robertson**  
(780) 937-4466  
members@nlft.org

## This Month's Meeting Programs

**April 1<sup>st</sup>**

### **BUSINESS MEETING + BEGINNERS & FREE TIE**

*We will have our monthly business meeting followed by fly fish networking, beginner tying and a free tie. Spring will be here soon, so bring your vices, tools and materials and tie one (or two or three) on.*

**April 8<sup>th</sup>**

### **KEN MONK & RICK LANG – TENKARA FISHING**

*Ken & Rick will give a presentation on setting up a Tenkara rod from tip to hook.*

**April 15<sup>th</sup>**

### **MICHAEL SULLIVAN, ESRD**

*Grayling Populations in the Province as a Whole!*

**April 22<sup>nd</sup>**

### **BARRY WHITE AND THE BOW RIVER**

**April 29<sup>th</sup>**

### **JIM O'NEIL & KEN MONK GRAYLING SURVEY UPDATE**

*Jim and Ken will present an update on the Grayling Survey.*

## Upcoming Events this Month

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| April 1 <sup>st</sup>  | No Fooling!  |
| April 3-5              | Easter Weekend                                     |
| April 15-21            | The fish Calendar says "7 Days of Good Fishing"    |
| April 25 <sup>th</sup> | <b>Introduction to Fly Fishing</b> Queen Mary Park |

## Upcoming Event this Year!



**THE STOCKING OF TIGER TROUT!**

## REMEMBER!



**"FISHING HAS NO AGE LIMIT"**

## Split-Cane Fly Rod Raffle

**Donated by: Don Anderson**

*Once again Don has been very generous and he has graciously donated one of his handmade split-cane fly rods for our fly fishing club to raffle off as a fund raiser to help us finance our projects, etc.*

*Tickets are available at the club*

*Please visit Don's site and watch the video.*

<http://www.bamboorods.ca/>

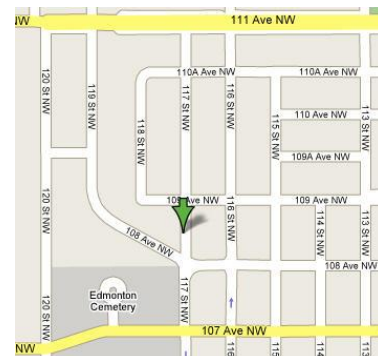
## CLUB MEETING PRESENTATIONS

*A very important part of our club activities is to present every week programs that are new, educational and beneficial to our members. If there are programs / activities that you as a member would like to know more about please let the executive know. Presently we are in need of someone to assist in coordinating the monthly presentations. If you are interested, please contact Dave Murray. Thank you.*

## Map to the home of



Northern Lights Fly Fishers  
Trout Unlimited Edmonton



## Lucky Thirteen by Neil Sutherland

The date was November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1974 and in this unusual year, the lakes in this part of Alberta were still ice-free. I had completed a long, tough week and since I've always found that going fishing was therapeutic, I'm heading towards Carson Lake.

Carson Lake must be the luckiest accident in the history of stocked lakes. There is a water plant on the lake that pumps chlorinated water to a number of natural gas extraction units in the area as slime control on the cooling towers. In the fall of 1966, this plant pumped the lake too low and consequently, that winter the lake froze to the bottom. This killed all the pike, tullibee, suckers, lingcod and perch that were native to the lake. That year there was a large snow pack and when it melted in the spring of 1967, the lake filled to the brim.

The biologists saw the opportunity to stock trout and they released 300,000<sup>+</sup> rainbow fry. They couldn't believe their eyes when these fish came back at ¾ lb. in September. This fantastic growth rate continued for four subsequent years. The fresh water shrimp population in Carson Lake was truly immense and the trout were simply swimming along with their mouths open sieving shrimp into their bellies. But... there is an outfall creek that runs into the Athabasca River and it had not been grilled to prevent pike from reentering the lake. The yearly stockings

were simply feeding the pike, thank you very much.

The larger trout were agile enough to avoid being eaten.

It was to this situation that Zoe Girl, my Springer Spaniel and I are heading. We arrive at the lake and the campground is empty. We bed down and are snug in my truck camper.

It's 7 am the following morning when we hear a lot of noise outside. We look out and see two men running down the boat launch with a boat. At breakneck speed they load an outboard motor and two rifles. I scan the far shore with binoculars and I see the two cow moose that have aroused their attention. The moose take off, the boat makes a U-turn and our two "hunters" return. I invite them in for coffee and they did state that they knew that cows were not in season and that it was illegal to hunt from a boat. It turned out they were spinning rod fishermen and were going after the pike.

After breakfast we head out through a thin film of ice, Zoe girl and I to a creek mouth and the hunters to an area with weed beds on both sides of a narrow channel. I cast and cast all around the creek mouth for 30-40 minutes, changing flies every ten casts or so. I finally settle on a #10 Werner Shrimp and on my second cast I hook a large fish. I had three hundred yards of backing on my reel with a small piece of strike indicator wool every hundred yards. Two of these markers went through the rod eyes like smoke. I now had a

massive fish rolling on the surface, two hundred plus yards away from the boat. Zoe Girl had picked up on my excitement and was doing laps around my small aluminum punt, whimpering constantly. In those days I was a smoker and the end result, of trying to light a cigarette, one-handed, with a bent over paper match was little sulphur burns on the tip of my left hand's middle finger. Two smoke-less, tension-filled hours later I did net the exhausted fish. Since it had started to snow, I headed for the camper, relieved that I had indeed landed my trophy. The "hunters" arrived at the ramp at the same time. I couldn't wait to show them my fish. **Ouch!!** They had a trout that was clearly bigger than mine and they had caught it on a full hand-size "Five-of-Diamonds". There I was with a #10 shrimp on six-pound leader. So much for the delicacy of fly-fishing.

Taxidermy - \$189 in '74 dollars. Connie is petrified that there's a bigger one out there somewhere.

