
Northern Lights January 2023 Newsletter

Trout Unlimited Canada



Northern Lights Fly Fishers



Welcome to Northern Lights Fly Fishers Newsletter

April 2023

What's going on with
Northern Lights Fly Fishers - Trout Unlimited Canada

June 3 Dinner and Silent Auction

After a hiatus we're having a dinner/silent auction this year on Saturday June 3 at Kenilworth Hall ([7104 87 Ave NW](https://www.google.com/maps/place/7104+87+Ave+NW/@51.083333,-114.083333,17z)) from 5:30 to 10:00 pm.



Annual Silent Auction and Fundraiser

Saturday June 3, 2023

Kenilworth Community League

Dinner Included!
Tickets only \$20

This fundraiser is the primary source of income for our operating fund – to keep the club running. It is a fun evening suitable for anglers, friends and spouses and anyone else who wants to join in.

This is our major fundraiser of the year. There will be many auction items as well as raffles and a 50/50 draw.

Come out for an evening of relaxation & fun. Bring your friends! Get your tickets early at [EventBrite](#)

Doors open at 5:30pm, and dinner will be served at 6:30pm

Beer & Wine to be sold

Upcoming Programs

We are meeting in person at Queen Mary Park Community League Hall ([10844-117 Street](#)) on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm. We will be sharing these meetings on ZOOM whenever possible. On the alternate Wednesdays we will have a ZOOM only meeting for a Tie and Talk session. This is an informal meeting where you can see what others are tying and show off your flies.

Our ZOOM meeting id is 668 142 7482, and the meeting password is 306090. More information about joining ZOOM is available on our [webpage](#)

Wednesday April 19 at 7:30

Shelley Humphries, aquatic specialist with Parks Canada, will talk about [remediation of lakes in Banff](#). Shelley will be joining us via ZOOM, but we will meet at Queen Mary Park for those who would prefer a social setting instead joining by ZOOM from home.

Wednesday April 26 at 7:30

Tie and Talk meeting on ZOOM

Wednesday May 3 at 7:30

Ken Monk will report on the Arctic Grayling Project, specifically the results from the eDNA survey. This meeting will be held in person at Queen Mary Park Hall **in the Basement** and on ZOOM.

Wednesday May 10 at 7:30

Tie and Talk meeting on ZOOM

Wednesday May 17 at 7:30

Roundtable on the theme of 'Looking Ahead'

Part 1: Based on what you've learned over the years what changes might you make to how and where you fish this season

Part 2: What changes might NLFF consider taking for the rest of this year and beyond in terms of activities, meetings, speakers, projects and membership

This meeting will take place at Queen Mary Park and on ZOOM.

Wednesday May 24 at 7:30

Tie and Talk meeting on ZOOM. This will be the last meeting before the summer.

We are always looking for ideas for our programs. Send your ideas and requests to program@nlft.org for our Fall programs.

Introduction to Flyfishing April 29

Our Learn to Flyfish course is sold out.

Muir Lake Cleanup Saturday May 13

We will gather at Muir Lake on Saturday May 13 at 10 AM to clean up around the boat launch and lake. You will need work gloves and rubber boots, and optionally tools like rakes or a reach extender if you want to use them. We will supply garbage bags.

Bring a lawn chair for a socially distanced lunch. We will provide food and soft drinks.

If you are coming please e-mail Dick Slobodian at events@nlft.org

After we are done we can go fishing.

Kids Can Catch Saturday June 10

We need some volunteers to help out on Saturday June 10 at Fort Lions Community Pond in [Fort Saskatchewan \(1875 River Valley Drive\)](#). This event is put on by the Alberta Conservation Association and their sponsors. We help out by going around the lake and helping kids with fishing. If you want to help out please e-mail Dick Slobodian at events@nlft.org

Fly of the Month: The H&L Variant



Hook:	dry fly size 8-18
Thread:	brown or olive 8/0
Wing:	white calf tail, divided
Tail:	white calf tail
Rib:	fine wire (optional)
Body:	peacock herl stripped for back 1/3, full herl for middle 1/3
Hackle:	brown

Sometimes known as the “House and Lot” this highly visible fly has been catching fish since the 1940s. Lately I have been varying the colour of the calf tail and hackle to correspond with the colour schemes of Gary LaFontaine’s Double Wing fly.



Does TUC sell fresh trout cheaper than the grocery store?

That's what one of our members was asked by a bank teller when cashing a cheque from Trout Unlimited Canada. We know what we do, but many unfamiliar with the organization assume from our name that we either sell fish for the table, for stocking in ponds, or at best that we're a fishing club. Our mission statement, "to conserve, protect and restore Canada's freshwater ecosystems and their coldwater resources", does a better job of explaining us than our name does, but even that draws comments like, "So what's the problem? I get plenty of cold, fresh water from my taps!"

The best way to understand the work of TUC staff and chapter volunteers is perhaps to have a look through the [organization's policies](#) – they're all on TUC's website in the 'Resources' section. Anything entitled 'Policy Statements' is probably not top of your reading material list but they're really quite interesting and informative, especially in their rationale statements. There are the ones that you'd expect to find if you're somewhat familiar with TUC: on connectivity issues like the need to remove small man-made dams and hanging culverts; minimizing the impact of pipelines on watershed and stream channel health; maintaining or restoring the quality and quantity of aquatic ecosystems; protecting and restoring native fish and their habitat, and the importance of avoiding accidental introductions of the dreaded 'Aquatic Invaders'.

There are also a few other policies on practices that, in the words of one of them, have “created multiple social and ecological problems.” Check out the one on ‘Bottled Water’, for example, for a sense of how strongly TUC feels on some issues. And there may be one on fracking coming soon that could stir up some controversy, especially in Alberta.

Volunteer work on projects covered by those policies is what we do at the Northern Lights Chapter, along with some information sharing, education, a little flytying, and lots of fishing. We may be unlimited in our interest in water-related conservation, but no, we don’t sell fish and trout are not our only concern.

Trout Unlimited Canada Membership renewal due in April

Why renew your Membership?

Your Membership Includes:

Tax receipt for membership fees

Bi-monthly digital newsletter ‘News Stream’

Voting rights at Trout Unlimited Canada’s Annual General Meeting

Membership to a local chapter. Use the drop down menu to say you want to join Northern Lights Fly Fishers.

Member-only discounts on TUC led training opportunities

Avis Worldwide Discount (AWD) number for Avis car rentals

Real change on the ground!

Northern Lights Fly Fishers monthly newsletter with upcoming programs and projects

NLFF members get the club discount (10% on most items) at The Fishin’ Hole

Renew online at <https://tucanada.org/become-a-member/>



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