



TOPICS IN THIS ISSUE:

- PATAGONIA TRIP REPORTS
- 64 PERMIT AND COUNTING – BELIZE HIGHLIGHTS
- LOOKING FOR FLY FISHING PARTNERS – MONTANA PRIVATE WATERS AND ALASKA
- PERSONAL REPORT ON OUR 10TH ANNIVERSARY IN NEW ZEALAND
- APRIL MEMORY PHOTO

We are in the eighth year of publishing our monthly newsletter with updates on great fly fishing venues, trip reports and insights for our traveling fly fishers. We want to help you match the right location with your fly fishing goals and objectives and properly prepare you to fully enjoy the experience. We've been to most locations and pride ourselves on our ability to research new destinations. One of our services is to compare and contrast different lodges/outfitters. Whatever unbiased information on timing and locations we can provide comes at the same cost to you as booking direct – i.e., NO EXTRA COST.

PATAGONIA TRIP REPORTS



The crest of the spectacular Andes Mountains provides the border between Argentina and Chile. Patagonia is a loosely defined geographical area in the south-central part of both countries that is known more for its culture than its nationality. Patagonia also is famous for its rainbow and brown trout fisheries.

Two weeks provides enough time to fish both sides of the Andes' crest, providing an adventure that maximizes the airfare and flight time involved in getting there from the USA. This was the path taken by Scott and Bill Dinsmore for a wonderful father-son adventure (that's son, Scott, at left – the older guy is Bill). They provided the

terrific collection of photos that enabled the photo essay of their trip that is referenced below.

An itinerary can begin either in Argentina with the exit point in Chile – or it can be done the other way around. Scott and Bill used Santiago, Chile as their entry city from the USA and departed a few weeks later from Buenos Aires, Argentina. They began with a week's stay at what we believe to be Chile's finest fly fishing lodge, renowned both for the fishing options provided and quality of its overall operation. If you want to see a full photo essay on their trip, click on this link: http://www.flyfishingadventures.org/Newsletter/Patagonia_April_2011.pdf



Jim Nix made a return trip in 2011 to the Chilean lodge referenced above and brought with him a few friends, Bobby Kacher and Bob Lyons. Bobby (with brown below, left) commented, "The hospitality was great, and the waters were too."



John Landis made his first Patagonia trip the last week of March to the same Chilean lodge accompanied by friend, Rob Pizzie. Rob was enthusiastic about the experience..... "I had a fantastic time! Marcel and Carolina are the best hosts one could hope for." This lodge is located in a spectacular Andes setting with arguably the best fishing options in Patagonia and also offering a couple of overnight possibilities including a float trip through the Andes staying in cabins enroute. John comments: "The lodge and fishing in Patagonia were magnificent. Each day we fished a different river or mountain lake. You could spend a month at the lodge and never fish the same water. We caught fish in equal amounts on large dry flies and on streamers. We stayed overnight at the Temple outpost camp that was an added

experience for the trip. The lodge was different than most because it also was the home for the owner. This added to the experience. The largest fish taken by us were a 24 inch brown and a 22 inch rainbow. The majority of all fish were longer than 18 inches.” (below, Rob on left and John on right)



The February newsletter referenced a combination trip made by Pat Patterson and Van Wood to Argentina visiting two contrasting fisheries – Golden Dorado in northern Argentina and Patagonia trout. Pat’s excellent report on the Golden Dorado experience was in the February newsletter. Van, who’s past fly fishing experiences of alpine lakes and drift boats didn’t require great casting, commented on the excellent guides at both locations and how much they helped him develop his skills. That’s Van (at left, below) with a brown and Pat (left-center) with one of those outstanding guides. The photos on the right are two of the alternate species taken from the Golden Dorado fishery - Van with a Pacu, at right, and Pira Pita, right-center).

Pat and Van shot and assembled a short video of one of their Golden Dorado battle which they placed on Utube. Clicking on this link should enable you too see a minute of exciting action with Van’s Golden Dorado.....
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IOTJwPLveuY>



64 AND COUNTING – BELIZE PERMIT HIGHLIGHTS



Art Hinckley (at left) takes at least one ten night Belize mothership trip each year to exclusively pursue permit, the most challenging of all the finned trophies to take on a fly. The most productive permit flats on the globe, inside the barrier reef off the coast of Belize, are his target. Many of these flats can only be practically accessed via mothership. Art was accompanied by a few fishing friends on their late February trip this year. He is among the top anglers in the world when measuring the total number of permit taken on a fly – he’s now at 64 total. On this trip, he had three double digit fish among those released, with a large fish of 17 pounds.

This excerpt from Art’s trip report will provide an example of a successful permit day using the mothership as the base of operations: “After breakfast on the second day, Captain Dean wanted to move the big boat down to Sand Fly. While he cruised down on the Rising Tide (the 58 foot Hatteras at right), we fished our way south in two of the pangas with an objective of meeting up upon reaching the Sand Fly Cays. Don and I were with Eddie (guide) and Don caught a 10# permit about half way down. After we got to Sand Fly, I fished with Dean and caught two permit, one 11# and one 12#. Dennis caught a 6# permit with Noel (guide) so the second day ended up being very good.”



Mac Noble was on the Rising Tide in early March with Belize veteran, Frank Jackson, and friends/newcomers Elden Hinkle, Larry Willis, and Don and Pat Sleeper. Their focus was the variety fishery east and north of Belize

City (as opposed to the exclusive permit trip mentioned above that moves south from Belize City). Variety they did find which included the usual fare of bonefish, tarpon, snook, and, yes, some permit also. In fact, Mac took three permit the first day, a very exceptional days fishing (below, right-center). And, Pat (below, left) took her first permit ever, an event that won't be forgotten! The normal schedule when fishing from a mothership in Belize is three fishing sessions a day, beginning around 6am and ending at dark with a short break after lunch. On one of those sessions, Larry (below, left-center) released seven bonefish, among his first bonefish ever. Tarpon were jumped and snook (up to 15#) were hooked, some released.



Frank needs an assist on his Belize trips – both in 2010 and again this year, he has boated a tarpon in the 80+# range, this year's fish hooked after an exciting thirty minute stalk on the flats. However, he doesn't have one decent photo of him with either trophy.....this years battle was caught on video shot with a phone and, as this is being written, he's trying to get some decent shots from the video.....maybe???



Recently heard about a trip on the Rising Tide trip where nine permit were released.....hopefully, we'll have more details in the May newsletter.

LOOKING FOR FLY FISHING PARTNERS – MONTANA PRIVATE WATERS AND ALASKA

This is the first time we're running this column which was mentioned in last months newsletter.....

MONTANA PRIVATE WATERS RANCH: We've had many inquiries about getting space in the new accommodations on the Private Waters Ranch in Montana and a few twosomes who are looking to find another twosome to join them (they only book the ranch for groups of four or more). Dates we're looking to fill with at least two more to join up with another twosome: July 5 – 9 and Aug 28 - Sept 1. (Link to the article on this ranch in the March newsletter - http://www.flyfishingadventures.org/Newsletter/flyfishing_news_march11.pdf)

ALASKA: The Royal Wolf Lodge is one of Alaska finest. We have a request from someone who's returning for his 11th straight year – he knows the territory! On his previous trips, he was accompanied by either his wife, son, or son in law.....and none of them can make it this year. Dates are prime time in this part of Alaska – Aug 12 – 19.

Hit reply if you'd like more details on either.

PERSONAL REPORT ON OUR 10TH ANNIVERSARY NEW ZEALAND TRIP



The 10th anniversary of our first New Zealand trip was made extra special by having our son, Scott, join his mother, Marte, and I for his first visit to NZ. He had just 9 days to work with so we tried to pack in 12 days of fishing - not much touring on this trip. We fished with four of NZ's finest independent guides (non-lodge associated) between Fiordland



in the south and ending with Scotty Murray in Murchison. We were on spectacular waters almost the entire time – literally many of the finest in NZ, although waters, for the most part, that would not be found in any book or article on “where to fish in NZ.” This link will take you to a photo essay of our NZ trip as well as a stop in Fiji that included Giant Trevally fishing: http://www.flyfishingadventures.org/Newsletter/NewZealand_Photos.pdf

WARNING: OUR ANNUAL NEW ZEALAND NEWSLETTER WILL BE COMING IN THE NEXT WEEK OR TWO – HIT DELETE WHEN YOU SEE IT IN YOUR INBOX IF YOU HAVE NO INTEREST IN NZ.

APRIL MEMORY PHOTO

With all the large rainbows and browns from Patagonia and New Zealand adorning this newsletter, it is appropriate to have our memory photo be one of the beautiful trophy brook trout from the Minipi River in Labrador. Thanks to Matt Stevens for this brilliantly colored male brookie.

PHOTO CREDITS: (top to bottom) banner photo - Matt Stevens; Patagonia - Scott and Bill Dinsmore, Bobby Kacher, Rob Pizzie, John Landis, Van Wood, and Pat Patterson; Belize – Art Hinckley, Mac Noble, Pat Sleeper and Larry Willis; tarpon jump – Adam Barker.

Either phone or drop us an e-mail if you have questions or would like more information about any of our destinations.

An enthusiastic traveling fly fisherman,
Don Muelrath
Fly Fishing Adventures
www.flyfishingadventures.org

888-347-4896
flyfish@napanet.net

If you want to be removed from our e-mail newsletter list, just hit “reply” and let us know – you’ll be removed immediately

