



Wambolt & Associates Summer Events!

Greg and Matt are looking forward to a season of fun events for our clients and their family and friends. What would YOU like to see this season? Fishing outings? Casting lessons? Fly selection courses? Group presentations? We are working on the schedule now, and will have more information in the May issue. Send your ideas to matt.blake@wamboltwealth.com. We cannot wait to get out on the river with you this summer!

Do you know
someone that would
like to be included in the
Fly of the Month Club?
Email Matt Blake at
matt.blake@wamboltwealth.com
for an introduction.



Peter Stichter



Fly of the Month • April 2017

Springtime in the Rocky Mountains always brings temperamental weather. Earlier this month, we had our typical spring snow storm, then proceeded to enjoy 70 degree days over Easter weekend. Soon we will find ourselves in the middle of run-off season, which will present challenging fishing conditions as rivers run high and muddy. The trout are still out there but they can be difficult to find based on how the rivers are flowing.

The equity markets often behave much like a river during run-off. Investors are looking for new opportunities, but struggle to find them. The S&P 500 posted a strong first quarter, up 5.5%, but now volatility has entered the markets, fueled by both economic and political headlines. The natural response for most investors in uncertain markets is to simply sit tight and wait it out, which is not a sound strategy. This would be similar to using the same fly the entire day in the exact same spot and at the end of the day, wondering why you have not caught any fish.

Challenging river and market environments both require a strategy. If you find yourself struggling with your financial portfolio I encourage you to contact us so we can work with you to design a custom plan for your specific needs. We take a holistic approach with our experienced team to help you address all of your financial needs and concerns. Contact us today to learn more!

- Matt Blake, Senior Wealth Management Advisor



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FLY OF THE MONTH • 20 INCHER • Size 12

A freestone river champion, the 20 Incher is a generalist stonefly nymph that can be effectively fished in multiple sizes to imitate almost every species of stonefly in our waters. It is a perfect balance of weight, contrasting colors, and realistic proportions for the family it is intended to imitate. The 20 Incher has proven its worth time and again.



Dry/Wet: Wet

Fly Category: Generalist Pattern

Family: Stoneflies

Species: Early Brown (Willowfly) Stonefly, Early Black (Willowfly) Stonefly, Golden Stonefly, Little Yellow (Yellow Sally) Stonefly, Skwala Stonefly

Life Stage: Nymph

Investing in the Future of Trout Peter Sticher - Ascent Fly Fishing

"No man steps into the same river twice, for it is not the same river and he is not the same man." Heraclitus 535 - 475 BC

It is a quote that both excites and haunts me. In one way, this quote can speak to the life-transforming power of the river. Season to season the river changes, while our time along the bank renews and changes us like an anchored cottonwood drawing new life from its flow. However, this same quote can be read as an ominous proclamation from a Dickensian spirit, foreshadowing a future where our rivers and coldwater fisheries waste away.

For both progress and pleasure there are costs. Just as you must lay down your credit card in order to enjoy a bottle of aged Scotch Whiskey, the growth of our suburbs, and trips to the water come at a cost to our rivers and fisheries. By no means am I calling for a halt to progress or limiting access to the river, but instead am advocating that those who love fishing and make withdrawals from the world of trout also invest in its future.

Just as we put aside money to pay the rent, regularly add to a 401k in preparation for retirement, or open a savings account in hopes that a child might someday attend college, we invest in the future to ensure quality of life in years to come. As anglers and lovers of the wild, it is essential that we invest in the future of our coldwater fisheries. There is no way better to do this than to join in the work of Trout Unlimited.

Trout Unlimited is the leader in the conservation of cold-water fisheries and state their vision as follows: "By the next generation, Trout Unlimited will ensure that robust populations of native and wild coldwater fish once again thrive within their North American range, so that our children can enjoy healthy fisheries in their home waters." With almost 89¢ of every dollar donated going into the river to restore trout habitat and maintain access for anglers, TU is a group that we should all get behind to ensure a bright future for trout and the sport of fly fishing.

I will leave you now with the words of Aldo Leopold, "Like winds and sunsets, wild things were taken for granted until progress began to do away with them. Now we face the question whether a still higher 'standard of living' is worth the cost in things natural, wild and free. For us of the minority, the opportunity to see [trout] is more important than television."

Like Scrooge in Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, we have a choice, an

opportunity to invest and give back, ensuring a bright future for trout and access to rivers that hold promises of restoration and change every time we wade their shores.

Ascent Fly Fishing and Wambolt & Associates are proud business partners and supporters of Trout Unlimited. Over the last 2 years, we have provided over 1,000 free TU memberships to our friends and clients and now offer you a free one year membership as well. Our hope is that you will stand with us as an advocate, investing in the waters and the trout that we all hold so dear.



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