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Fishy Stories

And other words of wisdom from our members

Montana Guide Tom Jenni Steers TFF Member Ron Hoag to Success

Ron Writes:

For three years now I've fished for several days each summer with a guide from Bozeman, Montana, on the Yellowstone and Madison Rivers. I've used a number of guides over the years in the Bozeman area, as well as fly fishing guides in the North Carolina mountains (including the late great Jack Cabe of Highlands), on the North Carolina coast, and on Martha's Vineyard. My Bozeman guide of the last three years is Tom Jenni, and he is absolutely terrific. He is knowledgeable, personable, extremely hard working, and a great shore lunch cook to boot. I've never had a guide work harder in my behalf or with better results.



Ron Hoag with a 23-inch, 4-pound brown

I can't imagine a better guide, and I'd like to do him and my fellow chapter members a favor by hooking them up together. Tom is the owner of "Tom Jenni's Reel Montana." He is, as he says, his own boss and only employee. Tom's e-mail address is Jenni@mcn.net; his web site is www.TomJenni.com. His price is the same as everyone else's guiding in the Bozeman area, \$325 per day for a full day float trip. He starts early, ends late, and pays for a car shuttle and gas out of his fee.

Braggin' Rights



Dave Fussel with a 17" South Holston River Rainbow



Debbie Griffith With Another Big Smallmouth From the James River

The brown in the photo was caught on my old Orvis "far-and-fine," a 7 ft/9 inch 5-weight that's a whippy small stream special. It took close to 20 minutes and half a mile of river to get the fish to the boat and into the net. I never could get his head up, so Tom had to net him from behind. He was taken on a prince nymph fished as a dropper from a Dave's hopper, in very skinny water.

Editor's note - Thanks to Ron for sharing this photo and story. Ron is one of many TFF members living well outside the Triangle area (near Greenville, NC). The geographic territory of our chapter makes it tough for all our members to join us at meetings, but that doesn't mean we don't want to hear from you — We do!! Send us your fishing photos, tips, and stories and get published in The Fly Paper!