



August 2011

The Flypaper

News and Events from the Rocky Mountain Flycasters Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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Dear Bryon,

August is already here and volunteer season is in full force. I am very impressed with the number of you that are showing up to help out with all of our activities. We had 12 volunteers for the Thompson cleanup, 23 volunteers for the youth camp, 14 volunteers for the first Trailgate Party, many volunteers ready to work on cutthroat recovery with Chris Kennedy, and 1 volunteer for the fishing line retrieval at the local natural areas. I really appreciate all the help as it is an indicator of the strength of the chapter.

The season is not over so let's keep the momentum going. [Terry and Scott](#) need some help to maintain a trail at Gateway Park on Sept 10, [Phil](#) is still taking names for the RMNP work on the cutthroats, and [Bruce](#) could use a few good people to help him empty the fishing line containers in the Natural Areas. Sign up now!

We will host the CTU Fall Rendezvous here on October 1 and we are looking for a meeting place for about 35-50 people with a couple of breakout rooms for some classes for that date. Any ideas would be appreciated (please contact me for this one). We would like to find free space or perhaps minimal cost. It will be nice to be the host of this event and maybe show off our home waters to our colleagues from across the state.

We received confirmation today that our speaker for September 21 will be Grant Houx of St. Peter's Fly Shop in Fort Collins. Grant will talk about "Fall Fishing the Poudre." It is expected that the fall fishing of the Poudre will be fantastic and Grant and his team will share ideas and suggestions. Save Wednesday September 21 for this very helpful presentation and mark your [calendars](#) for the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Right now, I have a granddaughter that is looking for some attention from me so I will close. Thanks again to all of you

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[Lee Evans](#)

Interim President

Advice from a River: Go with the Flow, Slow down and Meander, Go Around the Obstacles, Stay Current, The Beauty is in the Journey! ~Ilan Shamir

Chapter Leadership Opportunities

[Dennis Cook](#), Nominations Committee Chair

These are really encouraging times for our Rocky Mountain Flycasters Chapter. Many new members have joined and quickly become involved, more activities are happening than during recent previous years and many members are volunteering for current activities and events. Still, there are additional activities that the chapter board has discussed that need volunteer leadership to bring them to life...such as coordinators to lead a fly tying special interest group, a monthly fishing trips program, Trout in the Classroom, Membership Committee Chair successor, and so on.

We've been fortunate to have three new members join the chapter board, including two women, but we need to identify more members who have interests in future board positions to replace current members as they rotate off at the end of their terms. Board participation is an enjoyable involvement. It's interesting to better understand how Trout Unlimited and our chapter operate, and it's satisfying to suggest and support new ideas that can help make RMF more appealing to current and new members, plus making new good friends among the other board members.

Maybe you've had some career experience planning and managing organizations or programs, or have sometimes just wondered how you might be able to make a contribution to RMF's success...or maybe neither of these describes you. In any case, chapter activities leadership or chapter board participation might be an interesting and enjoyable experience for you. Think about it...and visit a bit with one of the Nominating Committee members listed below to learn more.

[Dennis Cook](#)

[Lee Evans](#)

[Stephanie Mullins](#)

[Bob Streeter](#)

Wanted! Trout in the Classroom (TIC) Coordinator

[Dennis Cook](#), Youth Outreach Chair

Windsor High
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entire agenda from ordering the eggs through hatching and growth, to release next May. We're ready to begin TIC activities with WHS to get them started on their second TIC year (2011-'12). We already have all of

the equipment and last year's teacher will again be running the classroom program, plus from our experience last year we have a known schedule to follow...so there are essentially no unknown's. The coordinator will work closely with Dennis Cook and the teacher, and then take over for the 2012-'13 school year.

Polaris High School: Polaris will be a new TIC program, and the program will be on a different curriculum year that runs January through May, so this is an opportunity to team with Dennis starting with routine ramp up preparations that will occur in December.

Contact Dennis Cook via [email](#) or call him at 372-9229 to discuss questions and explore your interest.

Wanted! Rod Building Mentor

[Dennis Cook](#), Youth Outreach Chair

One of RMF's Youth Day Camp graduates, a 16 year old sophomore enrolled in the International Baccalaureate program at his school, needs an experienced rod builder "Mentor" to guide him through his independent studies project...building a fly



rod. He is required to maintain a detailed journal and also write a comprehensive report, and while he prefers that it be a bamboo rod he recognizes that graphite may be necessary. He also needs access to a site that has the required equipment, fixtures and tools, and of course will pay all materials expenses. He can be available beginning August 16th, on weekends and weekdays beginning 4:15pm, and has transportation.

Contact Dennis Cook via [email](#) or call him at 372-9229 to discuss interest or to suggest a referral.

Trailgate Parties at Gateway Natural Area

[Dave Piske](#), Conservation Chair



In the inaugural session of Trailgate Parties on August 6, fourteen RMF TU volunteers had a very productive and enjoyable morning on Saturday, August 6 at the Fort Collins Gateway Natural Area in the Poudre River Canyon.

To open the session, Catherine Dillon, Service Learning Educator at Fort Collins Natural Areas Group, presented an interesting introduction to the Overlook Trail by describing its history based on historical research she had conducted. Her talk was applauded by all the volunteers. Also, the snacks and other amenities Catherine provided for later consumption were appreciated by all.

Then Todd Juhasz, Trail Technician at Fort Collins Natural Areas Group, explained the tasks the volunteers were to undertake. The work involved widening the Overlook Trail corridor by clearing bushes obstructing the corridor and also making trail drainage improvements at strategic locations along the Overlook Trail. The energetic volunteers completed all the work that Todd had set as the objective for the day within the planned three-hour time span.

To conclude the organized portion of the day, RMF Volunteer Coordinators Teri and Scott Gardner produced a delectable luncheon they had procured from a local sandwich shop. After a breezy, sunny, but not-too-hot morning of trail improvements, the lunch was quickly consumed by all those present.

To close the Trailgate Party, all those who had the time and inclination went flyfishing in the sparkling waters of the Poudre River, only recently transformed from its more challenging high flows during this year's extended snow-melt flows.

The entire event was well-planned by Catherine, Todd, Teri and Scott and all the volunteers appreciated those preparations that made the day go so smoothly.

The next Trailgate Party at Gateway is scheduled at 8 AM on Saturday, September 10. We will work on the longer Black Powder Trail on the other side of the Poudre River. So we hope the recent volunteers will return and, with Black

Powder being a longer trail, more volunteers will be needed. So spread the word and sign up by sending an email to [Teri and Scott Gardner](#), RMF's volunteer coordinators, or phone them at 805-551-3698. Tell them you want to volunteer for September 10.

"Day for Kids Festival"- Saturday, Sep 17

[Dennis Cook](#), Youth Outreach Chair

RMF will again have a booth at the Larimer Boys & Girls Clubs "Day For Kids" Festival. We will demonstrate and teach casting, display and teach tying knots, display and discuss aquatic insects, demonstrate and discuss fly tying and promote our RMF Chapter and Youth Day Camp. This is a pretty neat festival open to the general public, so bring your youngster or grandchild and share a really fun day.



A dozen volunteers are needed to staff two shifts from 9:00am-1:00pm and 1:00pm-5:00pm - six per shift. Last year's volunteers had a good time and look forward to sharing this year with additional new volunteers. Getting volunteers during the summer when we aren't holding chapter meetings is a bigger challenge, so please... contact Dennis Cook via [email](#) or call him at 372-9229 to volunteer.

Youth Day Camp

[Dennis Cook](#), Youth Outreach Chair

The 2nd Annual Youth Day Camp, now completed, was again successful. It was two extended weekends...six days of intensive instruction, practice and great fun...and once again all the campers caught multiple fish!

In the first three-days campers visited hatcheries, learned knots, casting, fly fishing basics, trout anatomy & behavior, fished on ponds and rivers...and were addressed by professionals from TU, CDOW, NRCS, Greeley Conservation District, The Nature Conservancy, USFS who presented about human effects on the Rockies, conservation, riparian habitat, invasive species, watersheds, and nature-related career fields.

In the second three-days they experienced exploring underwater habitat by snorkeling down the river, fish



sampling by electro-shocking, matching the hatch, and fly tying, more information about rivers formation and ecology from CSU resources, fishing

Sylvan Dale's private ponds and the Poudre River, and completing a willows & cottonwoods planting project.

It was a pleasure to interact with all the exceptional campers, and the Day Camp was all made to happen by our enthusiastic chapter volunteers. We extend a big "Thank You" all around to our 23 RMF volunteers who contributed generously to this educational and fun program.

Sean Anderson
Scott Bailey
Fred Condos
Dennis Cook
Pat Daly
Dave Dargatz
Justin Deese
Ken Eis
Cullen Emsing
Lee Evans
Amy Galyardt
Dennis Galyardt
Dick Jefferies
Alan Jones
Jamie Karlak
Rob Kendig
Melinda MacPherson
Dennis Martin
Connor Murphy
Dave Piske
Jake Ruthven
Guy Turenne
Paul Wehr
Stan Woodring

It's not too early to start thinking about reserving the last two weekends (Thursday through Saturday) in July, 2012, for next year's camp.

Got content? Thank you for taking the time to read our monthly newsletter. Your suggestions and comments are always welcome and can be sent to the [Editor](#). We also welcome your content and fishing stories!

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