



ROCKY
MOUNTAIN
Flycasters
30 Years



December 2013 Edition

[PROGRAM AND EVENTS](#)

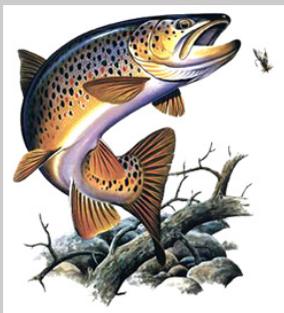
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Happy Holidays everyone!

I hope you had an enjoyable Thanksgiving and I wish all of you the best of time with friends and family as we journey through another Holiday Season.

What a fantastic Guest Night and program last month.



Thanks to all of you that attended. We added several new members and renewals and we are so glad to have everyone with us as we continue to grow in Northern Colorado. We have exciting things in store for the next conservation season and a lot of fun fishing trips coming up so be sure and stay abreast of activities through the website and the newsletter.

There are two particularly important events this month:

- The annual Holiday Party on the 13th and
- Colorado Gives Day on December 10.

Detailed information about the party is available below, and at the **RMF website**.

December 10th is Colorado Gives Day. You can make a

Recognition occurs at the \$50 level.

Join Our Mailing List!

Forward to a Friend

donation to benefit Trout Unlimited and Rocky Mountain Flycasters through the Colorado Gives website. All gifts are tax deductible and your donation can be earmarked to apply specifically to Rocky Mountain Flycasters. If you decide to give to the chapter I would like to thank you in advance and assure you your dollars will be wisely spent.

I wish all of you health and happiness in the coming year. It is time to start planning those spring season trips and there is no better time than now. As you wade through the myriad of options for shopping don't forget to support all of our local fly shops and suppliers. They do a great job and we are proud to support them!

Stay Warm!

Dick Jefferies, President
Rocky Mountain Flycasters

Chapter Event Calendar

PROGRAM AND EVENTS

[Brad Kiehne](#), Program Director

The flyer is titled "Season's Greetings" in a vertical green bar on the left. The top right features logos for Trout Unlimited and Rocky Mountain Flycasters. The main text is on a pink background and details a "Holiday Party!!" at CB & Potts, 1415 West Elizabeth, Fort Collins. The schedule includes socializing at 6:30, eating at 7:00, and a white elephant exchange at 8:00. Ticket costs are \$15.00 (online) or \$20.00 (door). Food and drink are provided. Attendees are asked to bring a spouse/significant other, fly flies, and a wrapped white elephant gift.

Season's Greetings

ROCKY MOUNTAIN Flycasters

TROUT UNLIMITED

Holiday Party!!

CB & Potts
1415 West Elizabeth, Fort Collins

6:30 - Socializing
7:00 - Eat
8:00 - White elephant exchange and drawing for fly rod and fly trees

Cost - 15.00 per person for tickets purchased on-line; 20.00 at the door

Food - Heavy Hors d'oeuvres
Drink - Cash Bar

Bring - Spouse or significant other
A few flies to put on fly trees
One wrapped White Elephant gift per couple or single

[To easily register and pay for the party, click here](#)

Mark Your Calendar Now for the January 15 Membership Meeting



Guide Taylor Edrington, Speaker at January 15, 2014 RMF
Membership Meeting

Taylor Edrington of Royal Gorge Anglers will be our speaker for the January 15th membership meeting. Taylor's topic is Alaska: A Guides Perspective. He is the son of Royal Gorge Anglers founder Bill Edrington. 2013 was the 25th year of operation of this well known shop in Canon City. Taylor has been guiding the watersheds of Colorado for over a decade, and spent close to decade guiding at and managing several flagship fly-out lodges in Alaska. He is a global angler, and hosts fly fishing travel adventures to destinations in 5 continents, in addition to running Royal Gorge Anglers.

Let's Go Fishing!!

[Mark Miller](#), Fishing Trip Coordinator

Although we will not have our monthly membership meeting in December, Mark Miller and Kevin Burkhart have some great ideas ideas about where you can spend some free time in 2014.

Listed below are some trips we hope to take in 2014. We will start sign-ups at our January meeting:

As you can see if you read on, there is a need for some volunteers to act as a Trip Host. If you have been to one of these areas once or twice, you qualify! As a Trip Host, your duties would simply be to arrange a meeting place and time, and possibly carpooling for the longer trips. Oh yeah, and duty number one is to keep the rest of us from getting lost - it is that simple!

Additionally, if anyone would like to host a trip elsewhere, please feel free to let me know and I will add your trip to the list. Contact: Mark Miller at flytyer.miller@gmail.com or 970-744-8229 (cell).

March 28 - Upper Poudre - (Host: Mark Miller) - weather permitting

April 12 - Poudre River - (Host needed)
April 25-27 - Gray Reef/N Platte float trip (Host: Mark Miller)
May 17-18 - Lake John - (2 nights) (Host needed)
June 14 - Laramie Plains lakes (Host: Frank Cada)
June 21 - Joe Wright Reservoir (Grayling) (Host needed)
July 12 - Lake Agnes - Host: (Host: Ben Zomer)
July 19 - Encampment River, WY (wade trip) - (Host needed)
Aug 9 - Blue Lake (Indian Peaks Wilderness) (Host: David Morse)
Aug 16 - Colorado River Headwaters (Host: Dennis Cook)
Sept ?? - Flaming Gorge/Green River (UT) (Host needed)
(2-3 nights. Dates to be determined by participants)
Sept 20 - Blue River (Host needed)
Oct ?? - Poudre (Host: Ben Zomer)
Nov?? - Cheesman Canyon/South Platte (Host: Mark Miller)

INFORMATION ABOUT SOME OF THE TRIP LOCATIONS:

Gray Reef - always windy, but offers some of the best fishing for large trout in the lower 48. Fish truly average 15-19", with bigger fish possible. Best to plan on renting a driftboat to fish this river.

Lake John - not far from the Delaney Buttes, this lake was reclaimed (poisoned) 2 years ago to get rid of the huge population of suckers. I'm told the trout are already 14-16" in size, in just two years. Lakes like this one show phenomenal growth rates when the suckers are kept under control. By May of 2014 these fish will be even longer and fatter and stronger!

Laramie Plains - Several lakes in this area, but Twin Buttes is a good candidate for some nice fish in June. Bring your float tube and hold on tight!

Joe Wright Reservoir - a chance to hook some exotic grayling in a high altitude setting.

Lake Agnes - a beautiful high altitude lake near the top of Cameron Pass. About a 20-minute hike.

Encampment River - a little know tributary of the North Platte just north of the CO-WY border, this little gem has some very nice fish. Will need a WY license. About a 3 or 3.5 hr drive one way will make for a long day. Camping is available for those that want to make it a weekend trip.

Blue Lake - in the Indian Peaks Wilderness area, is about a 3-mile hike in - pretty demanding with an altitude gain of about 1500'. Beautiful, high altitude setting, very few people, and beautiful cutthroats.

Colorado River Headwaters - on the west side of RMNP, always a fun place to catch smaller trout on dry flies.

Flaming Gorge/Green River (UT) - World famous (and sometimes crowded) fishery - one of those places you have to add to your bucket list. While fishing you may be lucky enough to see bighorn sheep and river otters. Wade or float it - a great destination either way.

Cheesman Canyon - this is the area that would have been flooded if Two Forks dam had been built years ago. One of the prettiest canyons in the west, with boulders the size of cars and bigger, with a good trail into the canyon. These fish are smart and tough, so it's a great challenge for those who enjoy fishing light leaders with size 18-24 nymphs.

Travel To Canada In June!

[Kevin Burkhart](#)

Canada - June 14-21, 2014: One or possibly two seats are open:

I have for many years organized an outpost trip to lakes on the Canadian shield. The lakes we fish offer outstanding fly fishing for smallmouth bass and pike, as well as great fishing for walleye and lake trout. In many years, we get a major hatch of Hexagenia mayflies. The hexes are a bonus, the bass will always clobber a popper.

In these lakes, there is also a great population of walleye and lake trout. The walleye and lake trout are usually deeper, so we generally use spinning rods to catch our "lunch". We have fished this week in June at this outpost for 17 years, so we really know where the fish are and how to catch them. The date next year is [June 14-21, 2014](#).

The outpost is a large 4 bedroom cabin with indoor plumbing and propane appliances. Boats and motors are provided by the outfitter, and we do our own cooking and cleaning. Guides are available for free, us! The outpost is served by floatplane from a town near Kenora, Ontario. The outfitter stops in every 2 days to bring ice, drinking water, and anything else we may need. No cell service, no wifi: Eat, sleep, fish. It's a blast. Cost in 2013, including all travel, food, and the outfitter, was \$2300 for the trip (door to door) from Ft. Collins. We have to have deposits in soon, so if you are interested, call for more information. Here is the website URL: www.halleyscamps.com/bee-lake.html.

Payment due not later than Jan 15th.

Kevin Burkhart, Charter Member, RMF Chapter
Email: tauwagonsl@comcast.net, or call 970-593-2832

CONSERVATION NOTES

[Dave Piske](#), Conservation Chair

A Record Year for RMF Conservation Projects

The year 2013 set what I suspect was a new kind of record for conservation projects scheduled, but not accomplished. Not an enviable record for sure. But the reasons were far beyond the control of mere humans. It was a year in which Mother Nature proved, again, she has primary control over our coldwater resources and their watersheds along the Front Range of the Rockies, and we are players subject to her consent.

But with a persistent set of volunteers who were unwavering in their dedication to getting the projects done, we were able to finish the field season in October with the greatest turn-out of volunteers for the flood debris cleanup adjacent to the Big Thompson River at Sylvan Dale Ranch.

Equal appreciation goes those volunteers who turned out for other completed events; the early-summer trail work at Gateway Natural Area; and stewardship days on the River Trail at Phantom Canyon. For those those "would-have-been" volunteers at the Sheep Creek re-connect project, the Elkhorn Creek streambed hardening projects, or the numerous postponed

ecological restoration projects in the High Park burn area, thank you all so much for hanging in there when Mother Nature declared, "not that weekend".

In the coming new year we will have numerous volunteer opportunities, some left over from 2013 delays, and a new category involving flood restoration along the Big Thompson. Stay alert to this newsletter and look for the opportunities that Mother Nature can't quell.

And thank you again for your strong and wholehearted support of our conservation projects during 2013.

GIVE US YOUR BEST SHOT

We're always looking for pictures germane to fly fishing, rivers, lakes, and watershed conservation, volunteers doing that work, fly tying, sharing fishing with youngsters and others, so the options are varied. Most suitable would be local with RMF members, but some other destinations will be considered. Having permission to publish on our website will be implicit for submitted photos so make certain you have permission from anyone in your pictures.

Photographers will be acknowledged in a caption with the picture so rush those pictures in. Send your pictures to webmaster@rockymtnflycasters.org.

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