

# The Flypaper

December 2022



A LEADER IN COLDWATER CONSERVATION

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## From The President

Welcome to our December newsletter, and best wishes for a happy and joyous season!

### **Success: How do we get there?**

There are many paths to success. Here's one quote that I like:

Plant the seed . . .  
Set the intention . . .  
Envision the path . . .  
Put in the work . . .

I think it's safe to say that we did just that in 2022. Our volunteers gifted a lot of their precious time and energy to our chapter – they put in a lot of hours. And accomplished so much!

It was also great to have our efforts recognized by CTU – as the Exemplary Chapter for Colorado! That is a true honor, and I hope all of you are proud of your accomplishments and proud of your chapter!

So, I'd like to say a special thanks to our wonderful volunteers!

### **Board Members:**

Dave Haeusler – VP

Tony Popp - Treasurer

Jeannie Weaver – Secretary

Scott Baily – Director at Large



Colin Glover – Director at Large  
Ron Hanser – Director at Large

**Committee Chairs:**

Scott Baily – Conservation  
Zach Jory - Communications  
Ron Hanser – Financial Development  
Wayne Carlson - Membership  
John Bryant - Youth & Adult Education  
Dennis Cook - Leadership Development  
Dave Morse - Veterans Services Program  
Terry Gibbons - Webmaster  
Dave Handshue - Newsletter  
Ryan Laudermilch - Raffles

**Other program leaders:**

Jim Durante – Youth Camp Director  
Phil Wright - Stream Temp Program  
Mickey McGuire - Bug Sampling and Trek the Thompson  
Mickey McGuire – Board member of BTWC  
Colin Glover – Board member of CPRW  
Jerry Pellis - School Waters Festivals

I'm sure I should be listing additional names here – my apology if I have missed anyone.

Last, but definitely not least, I would like to ask you all to remember Dick Jefferies as we receive the Exemplary Chapter Award for 2022. Dick put in tireless efforts as our Conservation Chair for several years. He had a vision of where he thought our chapter should go if we truly wanted to make a difference. I think we have stayed true to Dick's vision of being a chapter that really makes a positive impact on the conservation of our trout fisheries in northern Colorado, in addition to the positive impact we make through our education programs (school waters festivals, stream girls, and our youth camp).

Yes, I think Dick would be very proud of our chapter, as am I. As your outgoing president, I simply want to thank all of you. Thank you for being a member of our chapter. Thank you for your time. Thank you for your efforts to be part of something bigger than yourself. Thank you for a job well done! Your dedication to our conservation and education mission has been something special to behold!

Full steam ahead!

Sincerely,  
Mark Miller



**Support RMFTU on Colorado Gives Day**

COMMUNITY FIRST FOUNDATION

COLORADO  
GIVES DAY



Community Partner

ColoradoGivesDay.org Dec. 6

Ask your FRIENDS & FAMILY today...

**DONATE** (before December 6) to Rocky Mountain Flycasters Trout Unlimited via Colorado Gives

Your generous tax-deductible gift will help RMFTU continue investing in Colorado's coldwater streams — including Big Thompson and Cache la Poudre rivers — that you love. RMFTU's signature conservation project is Poudre Headwaters Project, the largest restoration effort of native Greenback Cutthroat Trout in Colorado history. Help us conserve, protect and restore trout fisheries for generations to come.

Colorado Gives Day is a statewide movement to increase giving to favorite charities online. You can donate directly to RMFTU through Colorado Gives.



Please schedule your donation now:

1-Visit: <https://www.coloradogives.org/organization/RockyMountainFlycasters>

2-Click DONATE to give, and make sure your donation is set to process on **December 6**, Colorado Gives Day.



## General Membership Meeting

The Holidays are here and it is a busy time for everyone. Be sure to slow down, take time and share the holidays with family and friends. Our next general membership meeting will be **Wednesday, January 18, 2023**. Hope to see you there.





# 2022 RMF Annual Awards

## Rocky Mountain Flycasters Annual Awards Presented by Mark Miller, President

Each year many of our Rocky Mountain Flycasters Chapter members volunteer critically necessary hours of their personal time. Without this dedication and camaraderie far less could be accomplished and our chapter would be unable to support our conservation mission. It's always challenging to select among so many enthusiastic and deserving volunteers, and we're happy to announce the 2022 Award recipients.

### **Dave Haeusler - Outstanding Chapter Leadership Volunteer**

Dave has brought many benefits and perspectives to RMF from his senior executive manager career experience with HP. He has already worn several RMF leadership hats over the past two years: Education Chair, Vice President, and also as RMF Chapter's representative for two years on the State level CTU Bull Moose Committee that keeps tabs on state legislation that could impact our rivers and fish. As VP, Dave provided strong support to RMF's President, and also represented our chapter very well at CTU semi-annual meetings. As Education Chair in 2021, Dave recruited a new Youth FF Camp Director for our 2022 youth camp and also his own replacement as Education Committee Chair. He played an important role in this past summer's post-COVID re-established Youth FF Camp as one of the camp's lead instructors, and has also volunteered for numerous boots-on-the-ground conservation projects.

### **Roger Slocomb - Exemplary Conservation Volunteer**

Roger has been a stalwart volunteer member of our Flycasters Chapter conservation initiatives for many years. He may most visibly be seen as a quality photographer that many have met as he accompanies conservation work crews photographing volunteers' activities. Behind the scenes, Roger has leveraged his professional engineering experience to support RMF's Stream Temperature Monitoring Project (STMP) when, in addition to being an installation crew leader, he redesigned the housing devise that anchors and protects the sensitive probe from damage or loss in headwater streams' strong currents. Recently, Roger devoted extraordinary commitment to support RMF's entry into a related but new Stream Water Quality Project (SWQP). To this one new initiative alone, Roger has exceeded 100 hours - configuring an experimental installation in his back yard to test ideas preceding field installation - and then leading two crews' trips to install the system in a foothills headwater stream. Thank you Roger!

### **Dave Handshue - Exemplary Chapter Function - Newsletter**

Dave has done a superb job as our chapter Newsletter Editor for 2021 and 2022. His efforts resulted in the best editions of our newsletter in many years. He used his editorial skills to catch any mistakes, resulting in a near perfect product each and every month. He was also available as needed to send important email blasts to our membership reminding them about important upcoming events, or to let members know of needs for more volunteers for our many projects. His efforts were key to putting out a timely and professional newsletter on time, month after month for two years. Fantastic job! Thank you Dave!

### **Jeannie Weaver - Exemplary Chapter Function - Secretary (and much more)**

As secretary, while the efforts are not highly visible to our membership, Jeannie played an important role in keeping the leadership team on track month after month, which requires behind the scenes initiative. She elevated the position beyond being a 'minutes' recorder and expanded the role to also being an equal officer level Executive Board Member. Jeannie was a most reliable participant at every Board meeting and published minutes almost immediately following the meetings. She also assisted Board and Leadership Team members with administrative processes, file locations and status of numerous chapter issues. Thank you Jeannie!

### **John Bryant - Exemplary Youth Education Volunteer**

John volunteered for our Education Committee Chair position for 2022 and quickly developed good relations with the Colorado TU Education point of contact. He devoted many hours to plan and organize our 2022 Fly Fishing Youth Camp that was a resounding success. John has been extraordinarily effective establishing chapter relationships with several new community partners and also extending RMF's community involvement and visibility. He has identified several relevant, early-youth community populations and expanded collegial relationships with CSU, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. Thank you John!

### **Scott Baily - President's Award**

Scott joined RMF's leadership group in early 2021 to update our chapter's Google Drive, and also volunteered to become the administrator for our iVolunteer system.

In 2022 Scott progressed to Board Director at Large and soon thereafter volunteered to serve as temporary Conservation Chair (succeeding Dick Jefferies until a successor could be identified). Thankfully, Scott recently accepted the position fulltime effective January 2023. Scott has done an admirable job leading the Conservation Committee planning, scheduling, and tracking of numerous conservation projects. The committee has accomplished much work of value, thanks in great part to his leadership.

Scott was also instrumental in transitioning RMF's email addresses and various records systems from the old website to the new [rmftu.org](http://rmftu.org) website.

On top of all this, Scott is one of the top volunteers of his personal time, contributing labor hours for multiple field conservation activities. Due to his outstanding efforts, Scott was a major contributor in helping our RMF Chapter win Colorado TU's Exemplary Chapter of the Year Award. Thank you Scott!

### **Adele Shirmer - Exemplary Youth Member**

Adele showed up for numerous events with extraordinary energy and enthusiasm. Her attitude, charisma and conservation commitment have attracted admiration from many long-time chapter members. Consistent demonstration of these attributes contributed to her nomination as the youngest person ever elected for the RMF Board of Directors. She has become an *enthusiastic participant* at numerous RMF functions – EXPO, Youth Fly Fishing Day Camp, monthly meetings, Stream Girls and other youth activities and several conservation workdays. Just this week RMF was advised by CSU that Adele also is the recipient of RMF's Dick and Linda Jefferies Memorial CSU Scholarship. Adele is in her senior year at CSU with intentions to pursue graduate studies. Thank you Adele!

### **Dick Jefferies USFS Partnership Award**

At our November membership meeting, Matt Fairchild of the USFS was on hand to present Dick's USFS Partnership Award to his daughter Lindsay, and her family. For many of us, it was a touching moment, as so many of us knew Dick as well as Linda Jefferies. Both Linda and Dick were so dedicated to our chapter. So it was with some misty eyes that we enjoyed watching Lindsay accept the award on Dick's behalf.

Mark Miller

*Matt Fairchild presenting Dick Jefferies' USFS award to his daughter Lindsay Shipton at our November membership meeting.*



## **Pub and Dub**

This months Pub & Dub will be **Thursday, December 1st at 6:00 PM (THAT'S TONIGHT)** in the loft area at the rear of the taproom at the **Gilded Goat Brewery and Taproom**, 3500 S. College Ave in Fort Collins. Come and join us for an evening of socialization, swapping fish stories from

your summer and maybe even learning a new pattern.

“Pub and Dub” is a free event hosted by the Rocky Mountain Flycasters TU Chapter for members and friends to meet, have a beverage and tie flies. **Marty Staab** will designate a “Fly of the Month”, and the Chapter provides all tying materials (vise and tools as needed) along with video tying instructions on the big screen TV. Tyers of all abilities are welcome, and first time tyers will find themselves surrounded by others happy to assist.

**Please RSVP to Marty ([mrstaab@gmail.com](mailto:mrstaab@gmail.com)) before each session, and let him know if you need a loaner vise or tools.**

Pattern information and video link is emailed to the membership on the Tuesday before each Pub and Dub. Hope to see you there!



## Conservation News

Every year around Thanksgiving my inbox receives lots of messages expressing gratitude. I think that's appropriate, as it's easy to get caught up in the demands of everyday life and lose track of all the things we have to be thankful for.

Even within our TU chapter there is plenty of thanks to go around. Rocky Mountain Flycasters was recently recognized as the most exemplary chapter in Colorado, for the second time in four years. That was due in large part to the extraordinary volunteers who stepped up to make our programs so successful. THANK YOU, RMF Volunteers!!

I'm also grateful for our local business sponsors that make it possible to do so much more than our annual operating budget would otherwise allow. Please visit our local sponsors and mention that you appreciate their support. And our government agency and university partners (USFS, CPW, USFWS, CSU and CSM) deserve a huge shoutout for providing meaningful projects through which we can engage and collaborate. You all rock!

I'm thankful for Rocky Mountain Flycasters' leadership, not just those who are wrapping up their terms of service but also those who have agreed to take over the reins in January. And finally, but certainly not least, I'm grateful for the consistent guidance and support provided by the Conservation Committee, without whom all of RMF's conservation activities would not be possible.

Thanks to you all!

Scott Baily  
Conservation Chair



## Notes of Thanks

*Editor's note: Over the last few weeks, RMFTU received these notes of thanks. Our leadership wanted to share these with the membership. Your time, efforts and donations are recognized by the larger cold water conservations community.*

### **A Thank You Note from CSU:**

From CSU: “I'm reaching out from the Warner College of Natural Resources to sincerely thank you all for your ongoing support of students in the Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology Department. The Rocky Mountain Flycasters and Dick and Linda Jeffries Memorial Scholarship continues to provide much-needed financial assistance to students who are pursuing studies related to fisheries ecology and conservation. Your investment in students over the years is greatly appreciated and continues to make a positive difference. . . Your partnership and interest

in encouraging the next generation of fisheries biologists in such meaningful ways is extraordinary”.

*President's note: this is one of the great things we can do thanks to your donations each year!*

### **A Thank You Card from BTWC**

We received a nice note from the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition to thank our chapter for our support of the Trek the Thompson event back in October. It read in part: “Your support helped us to engage over 100 community members and bring in much needed dollars for the Coalition’s work in the Big “T” watershed”.

The event is done to share information on subjects as varied as aquatic insects, wildlife, emergency response, forest health, post-fire impacts to the watershed, water infrastructure, and the joys of fishing the Big T.

The coalition does great work!

### **A Small Thank You to Our Volunteers**

We held a small drawing at our November membership meeting as a way to say “THANKS” to our volunteers. Anyone whose name was in iVolunteer had their name placed in the hat, for a chance at a gift certificate to St Peter’s Flyshop. Ted Sammonds won the \$25 certificate, and two \$50 certificates were given to Dave Morse and Jaclyn Fitzgerald. Congrats, and thank you for your volunteer time and effort!



## **More Thoughts from our President**

### **What Does TU Do?**

If someone asks you what TU does, here is a pretty good answer: For more than 50 years TU has demonstrated a commitment to conservation on the ground, where it matters most, by cleaning up polluted streams, restoring water to dried-up rivers, and educating the next generation to take care of our rivers and fish. Together we are creating a legacy of cold, clean, fishable waters nationwide.

Ya, that’s a pretty good answer! And remember, we don’t inherit our world from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children. Let’s leave it better than we found it, for future generations. And you can help make this happen!

### **Greenbacks Reproducing in Hermann Gulch ! This is Huge News!**

Many of you may have heard this news a few months ago. But I’ve included this in our newsletter because I want you to hear what Boyd Wright of the CP&W said about the importance of TU volunteers in these large-scale recovery efforts: “This effort is only one example of how Trout Unlimited volunteers make a difference in native trout conservation in the state of Colorado and the nation. We, as an organization, couldn’t do these types of projects without your help. This is a project that all Trout Unlimited volunteers should be extremely proud of, so here’s a loud and appreciative standing ovation to all our volunteers. You are a part of something extremely remarkable that generations to come will cherish (Boyd Wright, Native Aquatic Species Biologist, CP&W)



## **Trout Fishing Expo**



**RMFTU Trout Fishing Expo**  
**March 11, 2023**  
**11AM - 4 PM**  
**Northside Aztlan Community Center**

Join us to get the fishing season started in style! Door Prizes, Raffle, Vendors, Fly Shops, Fly Tiers, Silent Auction, Rods for you to cast and compare. Try to catch the very rare Lawn Trout! Casting and fly tying for kids also!

Our annual fundraiser returns in 2023 at the Northside Aztlan Community Center in Ft Collins, 112 E Willow Street. **However, this year it will be much more than fly tying.** Join us on Saturday March 11th from 11am – 4pm. Lunch included + beer! Adults: \$20 in advance - \$25 at the door. Students: \$10. Age 12 and under: \$5.

Please remember that this is our biggest fundraiser of the year, so please plan to be there with pockets full of money! All proceeds will support local coldwater conservation efforts. Help us care for the streams you love!

### **EXPO Volunteers Needed !!**

Speaking of next year's RMF Trout Fishing Expo, our Expo Planning Committee will need several more volunteers in order to pull this off in style. Here is what we need: 4-5 more committee members to work on our Expo "To Do" list from January up until the Expo on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Then, the day of the Expo, we will need a total of about 30 volunteers to keep things running smoothly. We plan to break our volunteers into "early" and "late" shifts, so everyone can have time to enjoy the day. If you would like to be involved, please email Mark at [flytyer.miller@gmail.com](mailto:flytyer.miller@gmail.com). We will have lots of things to do starting in January, but with enough volunteer help, it will be a fun, successful event for all of us.

### **We Need Your Favorite Fly Pattern**

As an extension of our monthly "Fly Swap" and "Pub and Dub", we are seeking members who would donate one dozen flies for the Trout Fishing Expo. Dave Morse will organize the donations into nice packages to be raffled off at the Expo. Please contact Dave ([dgmorse45@gmail.com](mailto:dgmorse45@gmail.com)) to let him know of your participation and fly pattern.



## **Expo Title Sponsors**

The logo for JAX Outdoor Gear Farm &amp; Ranch, featuring the word "JAX" in a large, bold, green font, followed by "OUTDOOR GEAR FARM &amp; RANCH" in a smaller, green, sans-serif font.

The logo for SCHEELS, featuring the word "SCHEELS" in a bold, red, sans-serif font with a registered trademark symbol.

### **Title Sponsors announced for RMF Trout Fishing Expo, March 11th, 2023:**

We are happy to announce that Scheels and Jax have both offered to sponsor our March Expo. This is exciting news, and will help ensure that our annual Trout Fishing Expo fundraiser will be a resounding success. Our "Expo Committee" has already started planning for a fun event, and we hope all of you will save the date and will be sure to attend. It's Saturday, March 11th, from 11 am to 4pm. Look for more details in our January newsletter.



## **January Fly Swap - Stonefly Nymph**



Here is an opportunity to trade flies and recipes with your fellow Rocky Mountain Fly Casters each month. This is how it works.

1. A type of fly is chosen each month, e.g., midge nymph, streamer or mayfly dry.
2. Sign up by email or in person each month to participate with **Dave Morse** ([dgmorse45@gmail.com](mailto:dgmorse45@gmail.com)) a least 1 week before the monthly TU meeting. Signup sheets will be available at the monthly meeting for the next month's Swap.
3. You will be notified of the number of copies of your favorite fly to tie. This depends on the number who register plus one for the evening door prize.
4. Bring your flies to the monthly meeting along with an attached recipe toe tag, showing the name of your fly, the size and materials for the fly recipe, and your name and date, in a small container with your name on it.
5. The flies and recipes are sorted and you will get back one fly from each participant in your container at the meeting.

This is a fun way to practice your tying skills and to learn what effective flies other members use. In the past we have has 6 to 8 participants each month, so tying is not a big burden.

**The fly theme for the January 18th Flycasters' meeting is Stonefly Nymph.**

Sign up or ask questions by emailing Dave Morse, your Swap Coordinator.

Email Dave [HERE](#)



## Stream Monitoring Season Concludes

### Stream Monitoring Field Season Comes to a Successful Conclusion

Rocky Mountain Flycasters Stream Monitoring Volunteers have concluded a successful 2022 Field Season. Volunteers visited and retrieved temperature sensor data from 22 sites in the Poudre River Watershed and also completed the pilot installation of the NEW Water Quality Monitoring Project equipment on Bennett Creek. Roger Slocomb and Guy Turenne are shown in



the photo to the left retrieving water quality data at the Bennet Creek site.

A total of 14 Chapter volunteers visited a total of 22 Stream Temperature Monitoring sites resulting in 45 Total Volunteers x Site Visits. Moreover, the NEW Water Quality Monitoring Project involved 8 volunteers who combined to scout both Roaring Creek and Bennett Creek, and to complete, troubleshoot and retrieve data from the pilot equipment installation on Bennett Creek resulting in 15 Total Volunteers x Site Visits.

The Water Quality Monitoring Equipment is now recording data, and data have been uploaded to the Monitor My Watershed website. You can view the data set recorded and uploaded thus far at the Bennett Creek site by visiting <https://monitormywatershed.org/sites/WQMP-Bennett/> .

When viewing the data be sure to scroll down the webpage to view all data. In viewing the Water Quality data for Bennett Creek, note that the data are retrieved periodically from the field and then uploaded to the Monitor My Watershed website. Thus the data are delayed and real time data are not available as would be the case if there was cellular radio service in the area. You may need to set the date range to a range during which data were collected and have been uploaded to see actual recorded data.

If you would like to view all the Monitor My Watershed sites across North America and the rest of the world see <https://monitormywatershed.org/browse/>

If you are interested in learning more about the Monitor My Watershed citizen science project and would like to volunteer specifically with the RMF Water Quality Monitoring Project please email me at [philwright@ieee.org](mailto:philwright@ieee.org).

I would like to thank all Volunteers who participated in RMF's Stream Monitoring Projects this year. I want to particularly thank the Stream Temperature Sensor Site Geographic Area Team Leaders who coordinated visiting sensor sites in specific areas of the Poudre Watershed. I also want to thank Roger Slocomb for his skilled effort and many volunteer hours that he has contributed to the successful pilot installation of the Water Quality Monitoring Equipment.

The RMF Stream Monitoring Project in support of native trout restoration has been a rewarding project for our Volunteers. After five years of progress, we look forward to continuing and expanding the Project. We currently have 41 Volunteers on the Project contact list. You may register your interest in volunteering for the Stream Monitoring Project by signing up using iVolunteer on the [rmftu.org](https://rmftu.org) website (see [https://rmftu.org/ivolunteer.com/stmp\\_2023](https://rmftu.org/ivolunteer.com/stmp_2023)).

Looking forward to the next field season, we plan a Stream Monitoring Workshop to be held in Spring 2023. Over the winter we will be refreshing, and adding to, our protocols, and preparing presentation materials for the Workshop.

To close, let me again thank all who volunteer to monitor streams in our local watershed in support of native trout restoration. See you on the stream - *Phil Wright*



## Vince Herrera's St. Pete's Fly Fishing Report For December

November is officially behind us and the whole year of 2022 yet again seemed to quickly get away. Winter is officially in full swing with the snow falling along the foothills and the high country is starting to receive a



good stockpile of snow that will eventually end up in the rivers during runoff 2023. We hope everyone was able to enjoy a great



Thanksgiving with friends and family and are starting to get excited for Christmas which will also be before us in a blink of an eye. We have plenty of great gift ideas so come on by either store and get your wish lists started. As a staff we want to thank all of the folks who were able to come and support The Rocky Mountain Fly Casters as well as St.Peter's at our Tribal Waters movie night. It was amazing to see the amount of people who attended even during a snow shower and it is a good reminder of how tight the local fly fishing community is. A big part of why I wanted to work for St.Peter's was to be part of something bigger and this community has continuously come together several times to show support and love for fly fishing. Thank you all for including me and welcoming me to a wonderful place. That film really hit home and it gives me a greater respect for the water I will fish going forward. I did not know that water, something that I use so freely, has formed competition and it's sad that people are impacted in negative ways. Especially the folks who have used it as a way of life for a long, long time. The movie was very informative and opened my eyes to a whole side of the resource we all use. I look forward to watching more films in the coming months so stay tuned, there should be some dates announced soon.



With low temperatures, snow, and ice forming on the rivers, a lot of us hang the waders up until Spring arrives but Winter is a great time of year to find peace and solitude on the water and in Colorado we are fortunate to have enough tailwaters to find fishable water just about 365 days a year. A tailwater is the water flowing out of a dam at the bottom of a reservoir. If you have fished a tailwater before then you know how smart and stubborn the fish can be. The fish require a little bit more finesse and oftentimes require fishing small flies on really thin

tippet. This is when we refer to fishing as "technical". This is due to the steady flow, temperature, and food sources provided by the reservoir year-round and these systems can house some large fish. Smaller tailwaters like The Big Thompson and North Fork of the Poudre River at Gateway natural areas fish just about the same as some of the larger tailwaters like Cheeseman Canyon and Pueblo Arkansas River (shown in photo) and these are great places to check off the list. You won't always hook into a lot of fish, but the fish you will catch can be pretty big. Growing up in Pueblo, I can say that there have been a lot of days where you will get to the river and be the only angler out there and I have had plenty of days like that living up here in Fort Collins. Winter fishing isn't always nymphing either. On a cold, winter day it just takes the smallest bit of sun hitting the water before midges start hatching all over. As long as you wear good socks and fleece layers you can still have a great session on the water even when the temperature is below freezing. Be sure to bring some ice off paste to keep the ice from forming in your guides and tailwater fishing during the winter may just be your next obsession. If you would like to know more about this fun and rewarding style of fishing, try to make it to our Technical Tailwaters class on December 3rd. This class is from 2-5pm and is \$50 dollars to attend. There is still some room to fill in so call before it's too late. Even if you cannot make this class, get out to a tailwater to start piecing that puzzle together. The pursuit of learning and curiosity is what attracts us to fly fishing and makes this a lifelong journey.



When I am not out fishing tailwaters I am usually at home tying flies. One of my favorite things about working in the fly shop during the winter is seeing people taking an interest in fly tying. Fly fishing like I mentioned is a life-long pursuit and there is always something new to learn, practice, and improve on as time goes on. Fly tying is a sector of fly fishing that can add to the satisfaction and enhance the experience of catching fish. You can take it slow or dive in head first. You can tie flies to maintain your



box or you can tie enough to build your own boxes and if you are like me you will become completely addicted and end up with an abundance of materials that will last a very long time. Some of them I don't even remember why I needed it, it just looked cool at the time. Trying something new can be intimidating but learning basic techniques and starting small will unlock a whole new world of fly fishing that will occupy your time without having to go to the water. Like painting, journaling, or playing instruments, fly tying is an art form where you can be creative, express your ideas, and have a finished product to be proud of. I am currently working on stillwater flies to have for the summer time but my to-do list of fly patterns I want to tie gets longer as snow continues to pile up. Come in and check out the materials in our tying room, ask questions, and find out if this is something you want to get started in. If you don't want to invest in materials or tools but want to try it out, take our Intro to Fly Tying class on December 10th. We will provide a reference packet, tools, materials, and we progress through 3 flies that fish love to see and are pretty quick to tie. The San Juan Worm, Hare's Ear Nymph, and Woolly Bugger. The 3 patterns alone teach the skills required to tie more complex patterns available but will catch plenty of fish on their own any day of the year. The other day I spoke with a customer who has a mobile tying bench so she can take her tying to the river and she ties flies on her tailgate. Another customer called to get ideas for a tying package he can build for his nephew who just got started and is already obsessed. There is no limit to who and how you tie flies. The doors to your imagination are always open and the possibilities are literally endless so let the tying begin!

Winter doesn't have to be full of quiet days inside and you don't always have to be on the water either. Finding a balance of things we like to do will help slow the time down that we find slipping away from us throughout our busy lives. Cut out an afternoon to check out the Big Thompson or Gateway tailwaters. One time I was out fishing on a quiet morning with snow falling. You could hear only the wind as it worked in and out of some of the trees and a trickle of flowing water and it was a moment in time of pure bliss. I hope you can experience that as well and would love to hear about it when you get the time. Regardless of whether you choose to fish, tie flies, ski Cameron Pass, or just stay warm inside, we hope you enjoy the winter snow and have a great Holiday Season.



## From the Editor

This issue of the Flypaper marks my last as Editor. I have thoroughly enjoyed working on this and the other publications you have received from RMFTU. I have learned just how many people dedicate time and energy to our chapter. It's this dedication that makes the chapter one of the finest in the State if not the country. As you read in last month Flypaper, the chapter received a well deserved award for Exemplary Chapter. Well Done!

First, I would like to thank Bob Green, the previous editor, for mentoring me through the learning process. You took the time to make sure I felt comfortable with this publication. Next, I would like to do a group thank you to the many contributors. Listing them would be futile as I'm sure I would miss at least one person. Lastly, a big thanks goes to Mark Miller and Zach Jory for your guidance as we searched for a direction with publications during COVID.

Isaac Fournier will be taking on the editor duties next month. He should have access to the "News Email" by mid December. Just to make sure your January articles arrives, please send them to both [news@rmftu.org](mailto:news@rmftu.org) **AND** [ifournier165@gmail.com](mailto:ifournier165@gmail.com).

The Flypaper is FOR the membership FROM the membership. Keep sending in those articles!!

See you on the water,  
Dave



# Video of the Month



With the sun setting at 4:30, the only thing better than getting out on the water for a few hours after a busy day is planning out those upcoming adventures. Maybe Alaska's on the bucket list for next summer? If it wasn't before, it definitely will be after watching these 3 minutes of action-packed salmon and steelhead madness! Enjoy.



## Local Fly Shops, Outfitters and Guides

### **St. Peter's Fly Shop**

202 Remington St. Fort Collins, CO 80524  
phone: 970-498-8968 / FAX: 970-482-5990  
web site: [www.stpetes.com](http://www.stpetes.com) | [Check out our classes](#)

### **St. Peter's South**

925 E. Harmony Road, Suite 200, Fort Collins, CO 80525  
phone: (970) 377-3785  
website: [www.stpetes.com](http://www.stpetes.com) | [Check out our classes](#)

### **Stone Creek, Ltd.**

2645 - 64th Avenue / Greeley, CO 80634-8906  
phone: (970) 330-7476 / Fax: (970) 330-2238  
website: [www.stonecreekltd.com](http://www.stonecreekltd.com)

### **JAX Mercantile - Fort Collins**

1200 N. College Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80524  
phone: (970) 221-0544  
web site: [www.jaxoutdoor.com](http://www.jaxoutdoor.com)

### **Jax Mercantile - Loveland**

2665 West Eisenhower  
Loveland, CO 80537  
website: [stores.jaxgoods.com/jax-loveland](http://stores.jaxgoods.com/jax-loveland)

### **Elkhorn Rod and Reel**

3121 West Eisenhower Blvd., Loveland, CO 80537  
phone: 970-227-4707  
web site: [www.elkhornflyrodandreel.com](http://www.elkhornflyrodandreel.com)

### **Scheels**

4755 Ronald Reagan Blvd., Johnstown, CO 80534  
phone: (970) 663-7800  
website: [www.scheels.com](http://www.scheels.com)

### **Sportsman's Warehouse**

1675 Rocky Mountain Avenue, Loveland, CO  
website: [www.sportsmans.com](http://www.sportsmans.com)

### **Liarflies, LLC**

3212 Wigwam Way  
Wellington, CO  
ph: Toll free 866-773-5128  
web site: [www.learflies.com](http://www.learflies.com)

**She's Fly**  
Fort Collins, CO  
ph: 970-682-4704  
web site: [www.shesfly.com](http://www.shesfly.com)



## Rocky Mountain Flycasters Sustaining Donors

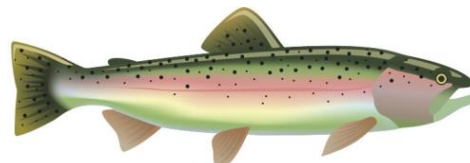


St. Peter's Fly Shop



### **Cutthroat Trout Donor (\$1000+)**

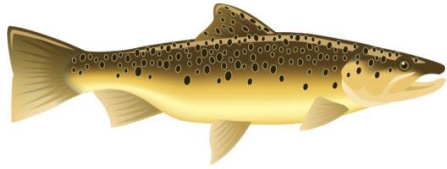
David Bowden  
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Jennifer Kovescses

Richard Krebs

Randy Kryszak

Mike Malvey

Mark Miller

The Mishawaka

Wesley Morley

Doug Nagel

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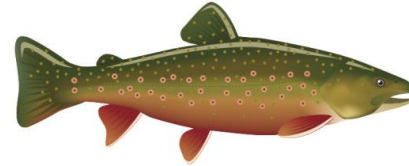
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Eric Pettine

Carol A. Plock

Bret and Jayla Poppleton

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**Brook Trout Donor**  
**(\$50 - \$99)**

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## EXEMPLARY CHAPTER

THIS CERTIFICATE IS HEREBY AWARDED TO

*Rocky Mountain Flycasters*

FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING EFFORTS IN RESTORING HABITAT AND NATIVE TROUT, ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY, EDUCATING YOUTH, PROMOTING WATERSHED COLLABORATIONS, AND RAISING THE QUALITY OF THEIR HOMEWATERS ON THE CACHE LA POUDE AND BIG THOMPSON.

PRESENTED BY COLORADO TROUT UNLIMITED ON THE 22ND OF OCTOBER, 2022



Rocky Mountain Flycasters

[RMFTU.org](http://RMFTU.org)

P.O. Box 1694, Fort Collins, CO  
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