



ROCKY MOUNTAIN
Flycasters
TROUT UNLIMITED



The Flypaper

April 2013 Edition

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Sustaining Donor



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In memory, annual reminders, help wanted, and...

Greetings to all,

Rocky Mountain Flycasters lost one of its own this past month. On behalf of the organization and Trout Unlimited I would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Matt Whitehead. Matt will be greatly missed by those that knew him. I wish him an eternity on a stunning reach of water with long rays of warm sun glistening across never ending riffles, glides and pools. The next time we are on water, let's all tap a hat in memory of Matt and all who love our waters.

A few reminders to all. Fishing License Renewal – don't forget to renew your fishing license. On line renewal is easy and only a click away if you so choose. Click on **Colorado Parks and Wildlife** to get your renewal started.

Annual Meeting – Next month is the annual meeting at which we elect the new slate of officers to the Board of Trustees. If any of you have any interest in serving in a leadership capacity let me know. I will be more than happy to visit with you about expectations and responsibilities. It truly is a rewarding experience. In addition to Board positions, we also have openings on the Advisory Council. All of those positions are listed below in a following article. If you have interest in any of those, again, let me know and we can visit about what the positions entail. One of the perks of being in leadership is the opportunity to attend CTU conferences and with that, as you might guess, the excuse to fish local waters throughout the State. I will be fishing the Crystal River next week below Redstone (i.e. there's a conference in Redstone), so I am open to tips from everyone!

Two advisory positions I would like to fill in short order are: Newspaper Editor and Project Healing Waters Coordinator. The newspaper editor role is primarily putting together the monthly newsletter using software already in operation with the chapter. By and large it is a cut and paste operation and reporting on results that are generated by the software. Articles are contributed so there isn't a lot of writing involved but experience with layout and messaging would be a plus. We are always looking for creative people to share the mission and message of TU with our readership.

We have officially begun a collaboration with Project Healing Waters. This is a new endeavor for our chapter and we would like to find a coordinator willing to help develop our chapter program. This is a very special opportunity to be an integral part in giving back to the men and women who have honorably and voluntarily served and sacrificed for our country. Click this link, **Project Healing Waters** for information about the organization. If you are interested in how the program can look on the water, check out this video, **The River Just Knows**, for a

sense of what the program brings to our veterans. (Tip – watch it in full screen because there is some great scenery as well.)

Spring is here and with that there will be runoff. We think of the snowpack as being well below average, which it is. However, what we can't be sure about is how it will melt. Don't get caught in that trap that we won't have big water during this runoff. Add some thunderstorms to the mix and water levels could become a finicky puzzle. Be safe!!

Tons of stuff coming up on the schedule as we enter the busy time of year. Be sure and check out the link below to get a look at the RMF calendar.

A fishing we will go, a fishing we will go, hi ho

Dick Jefferies, President
Rocky Mountain Flycasters

"If you've got short, stubby fingers and wear reading glasses, any relaxation you would normally derive from fly fishing is completely eliminated when you try to tie on a fly."

~by Jack Ohman, Fear of Fly Fishing, 1988~

Programs And Events

Program Director

April Program

Fort Collins Senior Center 6:30 – 9:00 pm 1200 Raintree Drive, 80526 Senior Center Map

Todd Hosman presents Colorado Trout Flies: Great Patterns and the Remarkable People Who Tie Them

A 20-year veteran fly-fishing guide and professional writer, Todd Hosman is the author of three current Colorado fly-fishing books. Periodically revised and updated, his guidebook Fly Fishing Rocky Mountain National Park enters its 17th year of publication in 2013. The Rocky book is the original guide to park fly fishing, and it still serves as a model and primary source for the content and structure of similar books today. His other guidebook, Fly Fishing Colorado's Front Range, closely examines the region's fishing destinations as well as local aquatic entomology.

Todd's most recent book, Colorado Trout Flies, will serve as the focus of his presentation, "Great Patterns and the Remarkable People Who Tie Them." A.K Best notes that Colorado Trout Flies is "A fly-tying book like no other, destined to become a classic."

Todd's writing has earned acclaim from readers and reviewers internationally. His books have also won praise from fellow fly-fishing writers, including A.K. Best, John Betts, Ed Engle, John Gierach, and Gordon Wickstrom, among others. Join Todd on an introspective journey of some of the greats in the Colorado fly tying community. Todd will be available for book signings after the presentation.

Contact Todd at StreamsidePress.com.

Need An Excuse To Go Fishing ???

Fish Habitat Study Project with the USFS

Matt Fairchild, Fisheries Biologist for the US Forest Service will join us at the meeting on the 17th to talk

a little about the Sheep Creek Restoration Project coming up next fall and.... the USFS needs some help with fish habitat reclamation studies on the South Fork of the Poudre. Yes indeed, another "hook and line" sampling project, as we like to technically refer to it, is being offered for specific reaches on the South Fork. Hmmm! Helping one of our agency partners and contributing to science by fishing! Sounds like a pretty sweet deal. Don't miss this opportunity as Matt shares a way that RMF can help the USFS by putting our particular skill sets to use.

Guest Tyer-Jin Choi

6:30pm

Jin Choi from St. Pete's will be sharing his skills at the vise. You will not want to miss this half-hour with Jin. From the North Platte to the South Platte he has got you covered with the patterns you need and will want to learn to tie. Join us as he whips up some downright fish tasty creations for Front Range waters.

Fly Tying - May Q&A (Tie)

Do you have questions about specific tying techniques? Are there materials that drive you nuts working with? Next month, our own Ben Zomer will be at the bench answering questions about materials, techniques and trends. If you have any questions you would like to ask and have Ben demonstrate, email him now so he can be prepared with the correct materials to answer questions and demonstrate solutions. Ben Zomer

Coming Attractions

Steve Henderson – May 15th. Owner of Henderson Fly Fishing, Steve will share insights about fishing the Yampa Valley and it's truly spectacular waters.

Q and T (question and tie) with Ben Zomer at the bench

Kerry Carahar – September 18th: Encampment River – Wade and Float Fishing

Adam Omernick – October 16th: Owner of NOCO Fly Fishing.com presents an evening of Tenkara

Upcoming Events

Fishing opportunities, volunteer work, education sessions and more!! We are approaching that time of year when the calendar really starts to get busy. Use the handy link below to go directly to the RMF calendar. There is a little something for everyone. Let us know if there something of interest you want more information about. We are just a click away. **Rocky Mountain Flycasters Calendar**

RMF Annual Meeting Join the Chapter Leadership Team

Board of Trustees Slate for June 2013 - May 2014 Program Year

Flycasters Bylaws Article V, Section 1. copied below:

Article V. Nominations, Elections, Terms, Vacancy of Officers and Trustees

Section 1. Not later than 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Chapter, the incumbent Board of Trustees shall nominate candidates for each officer position and for the two Trustees at Large. Said nominations shall be included in the Notice of Annual Meeting that shall be posted on the Chapter's

Internet website not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the Annual Meeting. Said posting shall constitute the required notice to all Members. Nothing, however, will deny nominations from being made from the floor by Members during the Annual Meeting."

Elective Candidates Needed:

The nominations slate will be posted on the website at www.rockymtnflycasters.org by April 30th. We currently need additional candidates for all Board positions, and especially for the *positions for the Board to consider at its April meeting to prepare the nominations slate.

- President*
- Vice President*
- Treasurer*
- Secretary*
- Trustee at Large*
- Trustee at Large*



RMF Board Meeting in progress

Elections will be held at the May meeting. Nominations from the floor will be accepted with consent of the nominee.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis Cook, Chair
Bob Streeter

Additional Appointive Leadership Positions:

Volunteers are also invited to consider joining the RMF Leadership Council in one of the following positions.

Communications (Newsletter & Website, etc.)	Membership
General Meetings Programs	Financial Development
Resource Management Projects	Social & Fishing Activities
Adult Education Coordinator	Middle School Youth Education
Trout in the Classroom Coordinator	Project Healing Waters Coordinator

Members interested to volunteer for either an elective or an appointive position, or who knows a member to recommend, please contact:

Dennis Cook at 372-9229 or email rkymtnangler@Q.com

Dick Jefferies at 481-2924 or email djefferies@Q.com

Bob Streeter at 495-1893 or email bstreeter@Q.com

Activities And Events

Let's Go Fishing

Mark Miller , Coordinator 970-744-8229

2013 Fishing Trips

Sign up for trips at our monthly meetings, or by email or phone. How better to ensure you get in all those fishing days you want, than to start planning them now. And who better to fish with than RMF friends, both old and new. So take a look below and "get started"! We closed sign-ups for the Delaney

Buttes trip as we have reached the max of 20 people. We don't really have a max number figured out for most trips, but you may want to sign up early to make sure you get on the trips of your choice. And if you do have to cancel, please send me an email to let me know.

2013 RMF FISHING TRIPS		
April 13	RMNP (Meadow Streams) 'Small but Mighty'	Host: Dennis Cook
May 24-26	South Platte (Dream Stream & 11-Mile Canyon) 'Fish, Fish, Fish'	Host: Dennis Cook
FULL	Delaney Buttes Lake 'Monster Trout'	Host: Frank Cada
June 30	Gore Canyon 'Salmonfly Hatch	Host: Adam Omernick
July 13	RMNP (Colorado River Headwaters) 'Bravo Brookies'	Host: Dennis Cook
August 17	Poudre (Upper Canyon) Wild Trout & Whities'	Host: Dennis Cook
September 7	RMNP (Dream Lake) 'Cutthroat Crazies'	Host: Mark Miller
September 28	Poudre (Big South) 'Grand Slam'	Host: Stan Woodring
October 19	Colorado River (Main Stem) 'Trout Pot Pourri'	Host: Dennis Cook
November 9	Big Thompson (Canyon) 'Bows-Brownies Bash'	Host: Dennis Cook

Here is a short description of the next few trips to help you know what to expect

RMNP Meadow Streams: another uniquely Colorado experience – gorgeous, wild fish in a world class setting. Don't forget the camera. And don't get between a bull elk and his harem! Weather suggests this spring could bring some accelerated early hatches.

South Platte Dream Stream & Eleven Mile Reservoir: true Colorado gems. Can be tough and technical fishing. Most of us have been skunked there at one time or another, but many have also caught the fish of a lifetime in the South Platte. Option also to hit the Eleven Mile Canyon, a world class tailwater.

Delaney Buttes (3 sage brush, high plains lakes): a unique (and sometimes windy) high plains experience in North Park, near Walden, CO. Fish chironomids, damsel nymphs, and streamers for large trout. Can wade fish, but it is much better from a boat or float tube/pontoon.

Gore Canyon: on the Colorado River not far downstream from Kremmling. Wading can be challenging sometimes with high waters. Haven't seen your backing in awhile? Then fish this stretch of the Colorado River with strong, fast bows and browns.

Flaming Gorge Trip Lots Of Fun



Enthusied RMF anglers gather to depart for Flaming Gorge.
(Paul Wehr, Adam Omernick, Bill Perrill, Wil Huett, Dennis Cook & Duane Helton)

Thursday morning, March 21st, our RMF gang awoke to pleasant weather and set off for the Green River in Utah, undeterred by the usual blustery Wyoming winds along only a short section of I-80. Eventual arrival hosted us with very high winds upon arrival, but undaunted we withstood their buffeting and 'waded up' for about an hour of challenging casting on the waters below the boat ramp on the 'A' Section...with some but minimal success. That evening we enjoyed a chili dinner in our lodging suite, and learned to play cribbage under Adam's deft instructions. (Lesson learned: When playing with Adam, avoid letting him deal!)

Friday we awoke to milder weather and four floated the 'A' Section while two waded the 'B' Section below Little Hole, and success was had by both groups despite experiencing intermittent winds, snow showers & declining temperatures as a heavy weather front arrived. After warm showers that evening was devoted to another tasty dinner, this time carried rice in our hostel, followed by hours of recollected

stories and almost certainly 'slightly' exaggerated yarns as we relived that day and many earlier experiences.



Paul struck success early with this brown early in his float.



Duane moved recently to Windsor and is quickly getting active. Here he hefts a nice rainbow.

Saturday we awoke to ten degree weather that felt like six-below and about five inches of snow that was projected to last all day. All in all, looking out the window we agreed we'd had a lot of fun and would do it again next year, but that it would be wise to accept the guides previous evening's offer to cancel the Saturday float, and so we packed up. So with fun, lost rod sock & beanie, nice fish, sole torn off of a wader boot, good cooking and friends' bonding behind us, we headed homeward a day early.

Contact: Mark Miller at flytyer.miller@gmail.com or 970-744-8229 (cell). Or sign up at our monthly meeting, where we will circulate a clipboard for all to see.

Conservation News

Dave Piske, Conservation Chair

Volunteers Beckoned to Enjoy Gateway Natural Area While Improving Visitors' Experience

One of the most productive and satisfying of conservation projects conducted by Rocky Mountain Flycasters is the Gateway Adopt-a-Trail program conducted with the Fort Collins Natural Areas Department. It consists of two weekend half-days each year. About a dozen RMF volunteers restore and improve the two hiking trails overlooking the Poudre River at its confluence with the North Fork. The schedule this year is for the mornings of June 29 and September 14.

The canyon at this confluence is stunning for its beauty and wildlife. The combination of a short drive from Fort Collins; just a half-day of moderately physical work; a free lunch; and an afternoon available for fishing at Gateway, or another location of your choice, makes these projects unusually refreshing. Plus, the friendships that grow among the volunteers and the Natural Areas professionals who plan and supervise the work all add up to a memorable day contributing to the public's enjoyment of the Gateway Natural Area.

The workdays are planned and supervised by employees of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department. All tools, project materials, and training in techniques for safe use are provided by these friendly professionals. They also open each workday with an orientation on the interesting history of the area and the wildlife that inhabits it.

Mark your calendars now, reserving the mornings of June 29 and September 14, so you don't miss this

unusual opportunity to increase public enjoyment of a spectacular Natural Area.

And to be sure you will "make the team" on those days, contact Dave Piske right away. Tell Dave which day you want to be there, and don't hesitate to say you want to be there on both days.

Protect the Poudre Fishery With High Park Post-Fire Ecological Restoration Projects

Rocky Mountain Flycasters is one of the organizing members of the High Park Restoration Coalition whose mission is to conduct ecological restoration in areas that were severely burned during the wildfire last year.

The "boots on the ground" restoration projects, and trainings for those projects, are conducted by our Coalition partner, Wildlands Restoration Volunteers. RMF members are urged to participate in these projects and more RMF volunteers are always needed.

To see the specific projects and learn how to register as a volunteer, simply click the following link: [Restoration Project Info](#)

Youth News

Dennis Cook, Youth Outreach Chair

Trout In Classroom (TIC)

Dennis Cook , Coordinator

After hiding under the gravel for 14-days as sac fry exhausting the content of their nutrient sac, the fish swam up to the surface on February 8th and after a couple days began feeding. They have developed the dark, vertical parr markings on their sides that are characteristic of young salmonids, and these will fade and disappear as they become sufficiently pigmented during the first year. Young fish are referred to as fry during this period, usually until about the end of one year when they will attain about three to four inches length.



Fish are visible, and air bubbles are seen rising just right of center



FRCC students view differing behaviors of the fish

The students' time recently has been devoted to running water chemistry tests several times weekly, vacuuming out solid wastes with the siphon device, and making 5 to 10 gallon water changes using dechlorinated water that has been lowered to 52 degrees temperature with ice. Water changes help the biological filter adjust the nitrogen cycle in the tank and convert toxic ammonia and nitrites into relatively harmless compounds. Before the nitrogen cycle transition started there were about 125 fish, and during the cycle many typically will die. The FRCC tank underwent a typical experience between March 4th to 26th, during which more than sixty fish died as toxic nitrate readings increased from zero to 5 parts/million. Only two fish had died between March 15th and 27th.



FRCC student intern observes use of a siphon vacuum to clean solid wastes from the tank

At some point after the fish have sufficiently grown, the Division of Wildlife's Fisheries Pathologist will visit and instruct the students in methods of tissue sampling, and collect tissue to be sent away to the laboratory for pathogen testing. This is required before the fish can be approved for release into state waters.

There are well over 100 parr fry in the tank, and only two dead fish have been observed so far, which is quite good.

Leadership Opening: Trout In The Classroom Coordinator

If you enjoy interacting with high school kids, then consider becoming a Trout in the Classroom Coordinator. TIC is an established program sponsored nationwide by Trout Unlimited that has substantial educational information and many years of success. This is our chapter's third year sponsoring a TIC installation, currently at Front Range Community College in its High School Program for Wildlife, Forestry & Natural Resources.

The selected Coordinator would operate closely with the current TIC Coordinator for the remainder of this TIC year at FRCC, and also the beginning of the next TIC year. The objective of TIC is to expose students to coldwater river ecology, trout species life systems and resource conservation related to both.

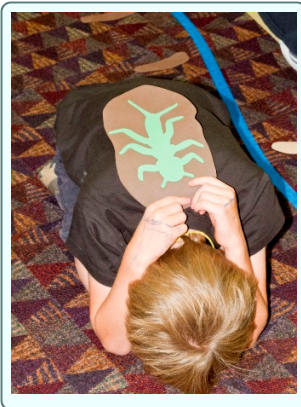
The TIC Coordinator is the teacher's "on call" consultant, so the primary requirement is availability. TIC programs run concurrently with the high school year, approximately mid-August through April, and have a well structured program designed by TU, and classroom content is handled by the classroom teacher. It's not even necessary to be an angler to be a successful TIC Coordinator, though it probably helps some. At the beginning of the school year is the heaviest time involvement, ensuring materials are ordered and then visiting the teacher and several students for a day to get the equipment set up and operative. Visits to the school approximately weekly are necessary for about 4-6 weeks when the eggs arrive, hatch and during the first month of life; after that it's phone/email communication and occasional visits. All the necessary information is available in a TIC Manual and various TIC literature, and there are experienced, knowledgeable resource people available to contact while you learn and if unexpected happenings occur. The Coordinator sometimes assists the teacher to identify expert resources locally, helps sometimes to arrange a fish release event at year's end, and also oversees disassembly and cleaning of the equipment for storage at the school.



CONTACT: Dennis Cook rkymtnangler@Q.com 970-372-9229

Children's Water Festivals - Volunteers Needed

Jerry Pelis, Coordinator



Won't you please help this little bug come out from under his rock? Volunteer to help him shed his "nymphal shuck" and hear him "hatch" ideas only a young mind can. Help this little bug learn about his environment and why cold, clean water is so important in his world. Explain to him why his destiny as fish food is so important. Or explain to a young trout that bugs really are quite tasty and that they should eat them at every opportunity. Ask those young trout why cold, clean water is important to them. Or talk to a group of ravenous predators and show them where all those tasty trout live. The predators can surely tell how important cold, clean water is to them.

If you enjoy interacting with children and would like to help the next generation begin to understand the importance of the Trout Unlimited mission, please consider joining us and contact Jerry Pelis

- Greeley Children's Water Festival at Island Grove Park April 24th
- Loveland Children "water" Festival at Good Sheppard Church May 9th
- Ft Collins Children's Water Festival at FRCC May 15th

Youth Day Camp - Volunteers Needed!!

NOCO Fly Fishing & Conservation Youth Day Camp - July 29th through August 3rd



conservation projects, eletroshocking , one on one river time and more. I look forward to hearing from you with any questions regarding the camp.

Adam Omernick , Coordinator 970-689-1753

The application process has begun for the 2013 NoCO Youth Day Camp and already we are getting lots of interest. If you know a youth between the ages of 13 – 18, boy or girl please encourage them to download the Application & Parents Information packet from the 2013 Day Camp page. We currently have 15 spots available.

Camp runs from 8:00am to 6:00pm daily Monday through Saturday, and activities take place between Fort Collins and Loveland facilities and rivers locations. We will be passing around a signup sheet at the monthly meeting looking for volunteers to help with all aspects of the camp. We have opportunities to help with casting, fly tying,



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. It would be nice if many of them were local to RMF members, but some 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**.

Rocky Mountain Flycaster Sustaining Donors



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