



ROCKY MOUNTAIN
Flycasters
30 Years



The Flypaper

June 2014 Edition

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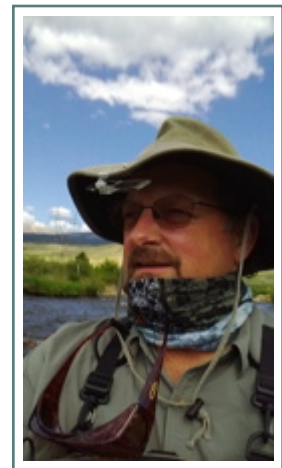


Please consider becoming

From the President

Happy Summer Everyone,

First and foremost, I want to remind everyone to be safe out there right now. The rivers are dangerous and have proven already this year how deadly they can be. The water is high, moving fast and has created many unstable banks. Be smart, be safe!



Thanks to everyone for participating in another successful program season. We look forward to bringing you more informative and fun programs next season.

During the summer hiatus RMF is far from inactive. As a matter of fact, this is the time of year we engage in what it is we do best. There is a full slate of upcoming fishing trips throughout the summer so be sure to check out the schedule at the website.

Equally important, and directly related to our mission, we also have numerous volunteer opportunities available. Our big program and volunteer event for the year is the Youth Day Camp. Scheduled for July 28th through August 2, we are still in need of volunteers throughout that week. Please contact [Dennis Cook](#) to review the scheduled times of different activities and see if there is a half-day, full day or even multiple days that you can help RMF successfully engage with the next generation of conservationists. If you want to sign up right now, just go to the electronic sign-up by clicking [this link](#).

As always, the success of our chapter is realized by making a commitment to give a little back. Many of you have been extraordinary

a Sustaining Donor at a level that you can afford. Special Recognition occurs at the \$50 level.

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in giving of your time in the past. Thank you so much for that and I hope you will continue to do so. If others of you are looking for a chance to share a few hours in an outstanding cause and event, the Youth Day Camp is a great place to begin.

Have a fantastic summer everyone. Let's see some fish pictures!

[Dick Jefferies](#), President Rocky Mountain Flycasters

"The solution to any problem—work, love, money, whatever—is to go fishing, and the worse the problem, the longer the trip should be."
—John Gierach

Update: Project Healing Waters



Bill Perrill, RMF Project Healing Waters Coordinator

Regional leaders of Project Healing Waters, a national veterans association, contacted RMF in February for some assistance in teaching their first fly tying class for Northern Colorado. RMF took control of the class after being asked for help and conducted 10 weekly classes at St. Pete's South Fly Shop. The veterans were terrific to work with and were very supportive of the class. Our volunteer instructors and helpers included: Dick Jefferies, Dennis Cook, Milt Mays, John Pollock, Guy Turenne, and Bob Green. Dave Morse and Mark Miller were the most involved volunteers and were very involved with the classes as an instructor or helper on a number of occasions. Our volunteers and helpers were very much appreciated by the veterans and the class was excellent because of their efforts.

We have already committed to

doing another fly tying class next year which will begin in mid-January and end in mid-April.

Our next project with Project Healing Waters will hopefully include one-on-one fishing guides for upcoming fishing trips. If you would like to be involved with next year's fly tying class or serve a disabled veteran as their fishing guide, please send an email with your name, email, and phone number to [Bill Perrill](#). Please state what program you would like to be involved with and your name



RMF Volunteer David Morse provides a veteran with hands-on fly tying instruction

will be added to the list of volunteers if you have not previously volunteered for a program.



RMF volunteers Mark Miller and David Morse teach a fly tying class for Project Healing Waters veterans

June Youth Outreach Notes

2014 Youth Day Camp. The final schedule and the number of volunteers still needed for RMF’s River Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Day Camp are listed below.

July 29 - Tuesday - Fly Casting (Need 9) River Bend ponds 2:30-5:30	Aug 1 - Friday - Snorkeling & Entomology (Need 5) Poudre - Lions Park 8:00-Noon
July 30 - Wednesday - River Fishing (Need 9) Poudre Canyon 8:00-5:00	Aug 1 - Friday - Fly Tying Intro (Need 7) Conf Room, FoCo - TBA 2:30-5:30
July 31 - Thursday - Still Water Fishing (Need 7) Swift Ponds 8:00-11:00	Aug 2 - Saturday - Fly Tying Intermed (Need 7) CMS, Windsor Conf Room 8:00-11:00
July 31 - Thursday - Electroshock & Restoration Proj. Big Thompson 12:30-5:30 (Need 8)	Aug 2 - Saturday - Stream Fishing (Need 9) RMNP Noon-5:00

As you can see, the camp is in need of significant volunteers for most activities. To sign up for any of these activities all you need to do is click on [this link](#).



Day campers and mentors electrofishing during 2013 RMF Day Camp

To review the complete daily schedule for each of the activities you can click on [this link](#). Please take advantage of this opportunity to influence NoCO youth about why and how fly fishing can become an enjoyable and lifelong pastime, and you'll also be helping develop the next generation's coldwater conservationists.

If you have any questions please email [Dennis Cook](#) or call (970) 372-9229.



A camper is assisted with her very first Brownie by RMF volunteer Wil Huett

Children's Water Festival

Another successful Children's Water Festival season comes to a close.

Once again, a team of dedicated, skilled Rocky Mountain Flycaster volunteers put their considerable expertise to work to provide area elementary school students with a strong introduction to cold water conservation and the Trout Unlimited mission through our presentation of "Who Eats Who at the Stream". If the smiles and giggles were any indication, the education was quite painless and a lot of fun. The feedback from the teachers was very positive as well as complimentary and a few teachers even brought their classes to our presentation for the second year in a row. The importance and value of cold, clean water was frequently stressed throughout each class. The students already had a good grasp of what life cycles are and enjoyed seeing how stream



Jerry Pelis, Coordinator, Children's Water Festival

life cycles in our simplified stream ecosystem actually work together in an interactive game setting. After all, what elementary students doesn't relish "eating" one of their classmates. The aquatic insects were eaten by the trout, the trout were consumed by the predators, and the predators remained quite content in their simulated "forest". Active imaginations were a must. All of our participants left happy, although some bribery was employed. Each student, upon return of class materials, was given a goodie bag, compliments of Colorado Parks and Wildlife and Rocky Mountain Flycasters containing fishing information, wildlife cards, Colorado Outdoors magazine, and a bookmark that summarized the day's message.

The volunteer's smiles equaled those of the students at the end of the day, knowing they had a positive impact on children's developing conservation values and just having fun with kids. Hopefully more people will volunteer next year because the Water Festival experience is just too good not to share.

Here is what we accomplished by the numbers.

- 3 School districts received presentations by
- 7 Dedicated and animated RMF volunteers teaching
- 21 Classes of 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders, giving a conservation message to 494 Students.

Great job volunteers! None of this could happen without you. A very special thanks to the 2014 Children's Water Festival volunteers: Bill Franzen, Dennis Cook, Dave Piske, Bruce "Bug Man" Rosenthal, Paul Wehr, Bill Perill, and Jerry Pelis.

Let's Go Fishing



[Click here](#) to view a list of fishing trips we hope to take in 2014. You will be able to indicate your interest online at this new website created for **Let's Go Fishing**.

We did not plan any trips on the Big Thompson this year due to last Sept's flood. However, the fishing from Drake up to Estes is as good as ever, and the fish are just fine.

We do need a volunteer to act as a Trip Host for the Blue River trip in Sept. 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 ya, 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](#) or 970-744-8229 (cell).

June Conservation Notes



Dave Piske, Conservation Chair

With the mountain snowpack now being earnest about escaping the high country, casting a fly in your favorite Poudre River wade-in spot is no fun these days. For a substitute that will keep you active near the streams, help the coldwater resources, and maybe spark some new friendships, consider joining volunteer activities that are now seeking your help. Here are some near-term opportunities to get involved in conservation projects.

Gateway Natural Area Trails.

During the May RMF Chapter meeting, about a dozen folks volunteered for the June 28 repair of the two trails at this beautiful riverside area.

Many thanks to all those who already volunteered. But if you missed the meeting and want to join in the fun, contact [David Morse](#).

Stream health assessments with US Forest Service.

Many of the high-altitude streams in the National Forest are just now becoming open for visual assessments of their condition after the September 2013 floods. The Forest Service is looking for volunteers to assist in field work to make such assessments. Previous experience in such assessments is desirable but not essential. More important is that volunteers be physically able and have the endurance to travel through difficult terrain along these streams. If you are interested and want more information, contact [Dave Piske](#).

Big Thompson River post-flood restoration projects.

Most of the restoration projects that were judged to be exigent before runoff have been completed. For those remaining, check the on-line project list posted on the Wildlands Restoration Volunteers web site: www.wlrv.org/projects. Use the Project Filters to find projects of interest to you. If you don't find projects of interest to you, check again every few weeks. Particularly because flood-restoration projects may be added from time to time.

USFWS trout population monitoring in RMNP.

Chris Kennedy, our good friend, and the only fisheries biologist assigned to Rocky Mountain National Park, has just released his schedule for summer 2014 activities that need the help of volunteers. If you have not received the schedule in the past two weeks, get your name added to the mailing list maintained by Austin Condon at Alpine Anglers TU in Estes Park. Contact Austin at

June Community Outreach Notes



Wil Huett, RMF Community Outreach
Coordinator

I spent a lot of years working with one of the world's most volunteer intensive organizations. From my work with the American Red Cross I think learned a few lessons we can use to make our 100% volunteer chapter stronger. Here's the most important one.....

Ask!..... That's the secret to recruiting volunteers - and 100% of our RMF projects are completed by volunteers.

The reason most people don't get involved is, "Because nobody asked me." So **ASK!** Ask your sometime fishing partner to volunteer with you on our next RMF work project. That may be just the impetus they need to start attending regular meetings next fall. Ask that neighbor who has fishing rods hanging in the garage. Ask him or her to join you in mentoring students during our day camp later this summer—it may be the experience which convinces them to join TU and help us work for even better fishing. RMF has several upcoming projects

which still need volunteers, so, **ASK!** It's the magic ingredient to a stronger, more effective chapter.

Membership Survey Update

An exceptional number of Rocky Mountain Flycasters members and supporters (n=192) responded to an invitation to participate in an online Flypaper survey conducted between May 21 and June 4. Our special thanks to all of those who participated!

The results are now being tabulated and will be published in the July edition of *The Flypaper* newsletter. Findings will be used to provide guidance for the chapter's strategic planning, now underway, and to help organize volunteer recruitment and management. The winners of the three \$100 VISA money cards, offered as response incentives, Phillip Small of Loveland, Lee Fritz of Greeley and David Burke of Fort Collins, are pictured below.



\$100 survey winners Phillip Small and Lee Fritz



\$100 survey winner David Burke



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This newsletter was prepared by newsletter editor [Bob Green](#).

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