

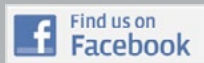


December 2017

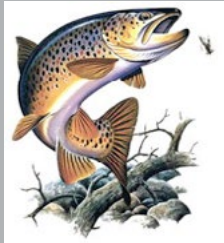
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RMF Quick Link



Sustaining Donor



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

Join Our Mailing List!

Forward to a Friend

From the President

To me it seems like I was still wet wading only a few weeks ago, but we are bearing down on Christmas and New Year's in a matter of days! I hope 2017 has been good to you. I hope you've enjoyed your families and friends and have felt the joy of a tight line on many waters. Here's to the New Year that lies before us and the hope that we will all spend more time of the water in 2018.

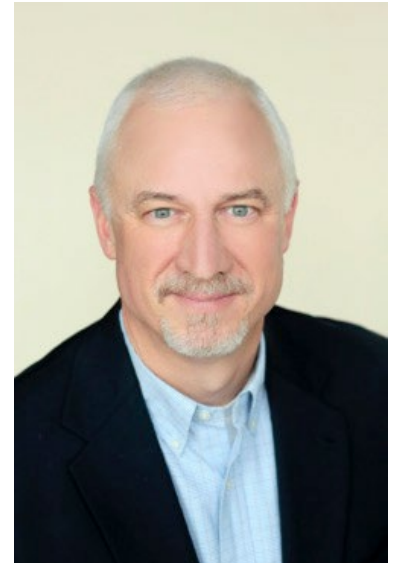
Of course in December we forgo our regular chapter meeting for our annual Holiday Party on December 15. All the information is here in the newsletter and on our website. I hope to see all of you for a great time and the infamous white elephant gift exchange. I've still got a few days to figure out what I'm bringing!

As you consider your end of year giving, you likely know about Colorado Give Day, on December 5. If you missed out on making a donation during last month's Embrace-A-Stream challenge, here's a chance to join your fellow Coloradans. Keep your giving local by donating to RMF.

Conservation and fishing go hand in hand. Without strategic care of our streams and rivers, we can't sustain trout habitat. I'm proud of how our members embrace this balance. Please plan to attend our Volunteer Orientation Meeting in January and learn how you can participate in the many restoration projects coming up next year.

It may be winter but the fish are still feeding. I'm going to layer up, tie some of my favorite tiny midge patterns and hit a tailwater. Who is with me?

Coy Wylie, President
Rocky Mountain Flycasters



Coy Wylie, 2016-2017 President
Rocky Mountain Flycasters

[Chapter Events Calendar on our web site](#)

Holiday Party!!

In place of our December general meeting, Rocky Mountain Flycasters is having a Holiday Party. Online sales (below) end Tuesday, 12 December! After that, tickets will be \$20 at the door. Please make plans to attend on Friday, December 15, 2017 at C.B. & Potts' Collindale, at 1441 East Horsetooth Road. We will start socializing at 6:30, eat from 7:00 to 8:00, then have the infamous White Elephant Gift Exchange, raffle drawings for the two fly trees and a brand new fly rod.

Cost this year will be \$15.00 per person for tickets purchased online (below). Tickets at the door will be \$20 per person. Everyone will get heavy hors d'œuvres from the C.B. & Potts kitchen and raffle tickets

If you wish to participate in the White Elephant exchange, bring a wrapped white elephant gift. (We missed the beautiful fish lamp again last year!) Because of our larger attendance, please bring only one gift per couple. We always have a great time at these parties, and it is especially good to meet and socialize with our significant others.



We ask that you bring a few flies and divide them between the two trees that we will raffle. We had a great turnout of flies last year as well as a huge pile of White Elephant gifts. In order to better predict the amount of food to order, we ask that you order your tickets by clicking our [Holiday Page](#) before Dec 12, 2017.



From the Membership Chair



Linda Jefferies, Membership Chair

The Rocky Mountain Flycasters' Volunteer Management System (VMS) is now online and ready for you! This new application will allow members to create volunteer profiles, sign-up for activities, projects, and fishing trips, create a personal volunteer calendar and keep track of their volunteer hours.

To create your volunteer profile, use the link for the Volunteer Application at <https://www.volgistics.com/ex/portal.dll/ap?ap=763710236>

I hope you will all sign up on the VMS system. Since this is a new system, please be patient, but do contact me, Linda Jefferies, at membership@rockymtnflycasters.org if you have problems logging in or otherwise. You can also send me emails once you are in the system if you need help working with the system.

I appreciate your help with making the VMS a success!
Linda Jefferies



December Conservation Notes



Dave Piske, Conservation Chair

As both the on-stream conservation projects and the related funding campaigns approach the end of calendar year 2017, it's timely to congratulate, and give thanks to all those who contributed to the success of our many conservation projects. If I tried to single out everyone who supported those efforts, I'd certainly miss some, so you know who you are, and please accept my deep appreciation for your contributions in all their various forms.

2018 is going to be a transition year, with the end of federal-origin funding for recovery from the 2013 floods. The conservation efforts will be going through a transition period, extending into future years, and there will be physical transitions shifting into different forms of volunteer activities, and I look forward to us collectively exploring and developing the resultant new conservation programs.

For an opportunity to preview those explorations, please see Phil Wright's article below and reserve a couple of hours on the evening of January 11, 2018.



Volunteer Orientation Meeting



Phil Wright

Rocky Mountain Flycasters will again hold a Volunteer Orientation Meeting at 7:00 PM on Thursday January 11, 2018 Mulligan's Pub in Fort Collins. Please put the **January 11, 2018** meeting date on your calendar.

At this Volunteer Orientation Meeting you will again have an opportunity to speak with Project Coordinators across the entire range of volunteer opportunities with RMF and its partner organizations. The evening's program will include a few minutes of introduction, some question and answer time, and then a chance to visit with the leaders of all the projects that capture your interest.

We hope to see you there. Watch your email inbox and the next *Flypaper Newsletter* for a link to sign up and express your interest in attending the 2018 Volunteer Orientation Meeting. Thanks again, I look forward to seeing you at the orientation session and on the stream soon after that.

— Phil Wright



The Flypaper's Videos of the Month



This month we have two very different videos. One is from Alaska, the other from Xcalak, Mexico. The first, submitted by Past President Greg Evans and his father Past President Lee Evan, summarizes a week-long fishing trip on the Neknak River. Excellent production and HUGE Rainbows. I hope the Flycasters who have booked a trip to Alaska in August 2018—and others—will enjoy this video.

The second, from my own recent trip with St. Pete's to Xcalak, Mexico, is very different. Unlike the first, the video was haphazard and only begun by my guide when I had fought the bonefish for 10 minutes. But it shows the resilience of this marvelous fish on the fly—and, I get to share a portion of a "bucket list" trip with you!!!



Rainbows on the Neknak in Alaska



Bonefish in Xcalak, Mexico

From our “Let’s Go Fishing” Coordinator



RMF Fishing Trip Coordinator, Mark Miller

PMD Heaven on the Poudre

It’s late July and the water is still really fast and high in the Indian Meadows area. I love this stretch of river, and have had good success in the past, but today was not meant to be. Even after adding extra split shot to try to get my flies down, I only netted one small rainbow after fishing several hours.

As I walked back to the car, I thought about a stretch of river upstream of the hatchery on the upper Poudre, where the flow may be slower and hopefully easier to fish. I pointed the car in that direction to see what I could find.

After parking in the roadside pull-off, I looked upstream and noticed that the river had split into two separate streams, each one much smaller and slower than the water I had just left back at Indian Meadows. Feeling hopeful, I left the car to take a quick look at the river to see what was going on. I knew that Pale Morning Duns were supposed to be hatching - but I wasn’t certain where on the river I should be looking.

Standing not far from the edge of the blacktop, perched above the river, I looked down at the water and studied the nearest riffle for a few seconds. In those few seconds, I saw at least four or five nice rises. Pale Morning Duns (PMD) filled the air, possibly one of the best hatches I’ve ever seen on the Poudre.

My pulse immediately doubled as I rushed back to the car to retrieve my gear and swap my rig from nymph to dry fly. I hoped that the no-hackle sz 14 PMD that I pulled from my fly box would be the right fly for this amazing hatch. I had tied several of these flies a couple years ago after watching Rick Takahashi at a tying demonstration, but had never used any of them. Today might just be the day!

Trees and tall brush lined the edge of the water along the edge of Colorado Hwy 14, but a nice opening in the trees, at the head of a riffle, provided the perfect spot to get started.

This was truly a beautiful spot to fish. A long gravel bar, not even knee deep, ran crystal clear over a bed of bright, golden brown cobbles, then abruptly dropped off to much deeper water.

As I moved into position, I noticed that most of the rises were right at that point where the shallow run plunged into deeper water, a perfect spot for trout to hold in the slower, deeper flow. Then just a short distance to rise and pluck those tasty morsels from the surface.

With my first backcast now in the air, I decided to start close to my side of the river, hoping to hook a few with shorter casts, and then work my way out farther for those rising mid-river and further out to the far bank.

Just before my fly landed on the surface, only fifteen feet away, I pointed my rod tip upstream for a reachmend, to get a little longer drag-free drift. No need, as my fly disappeared in a splashy rise after floating no more than 4-5 feet.

I was truly surprised at the strength and weight of this first fish of the day on a dry fly—a startling fast run with my spool spinning backwards in a blur. As the heavily spotted brown slid into the net, I caught my breath as I realized this beauty was at least 17 inches long, one of the finest trout I have ever landed on the Poudre on a dry fly.

My second cast was nearly in the same spot. It floated exactly four feet before it disappeared. A gorgeous 14 inch brown was now in my net. After catching three fish in my first five casts, I started to slowly work my way toward those fish working the feeding lanes further from the bank.

By now it was 4:30 pm, and I realized I may not have much time left before the hatch slows and stops. I quickly dried my fly, and dunked it in floatant again. With another backcast high in the air, I meant to make the most out of the next half hour.

I could not stop grinning . . .

December Youth Outreach Notes



Dennis Cook, Youth Outreach Coordinator

The CSU Fly Fishing Club was formed in the Spring of 2015 and is currently half way into its third year of operation. After several years attempting to identify a CSU student who was interested to help RMF form a club, we found assistance from Connor Murphy when he was in his junior year at CSU. Connor helped identify a qualified sophomore, Jacob Pitt, who accepted the responsibility as President and Connor served as Vice President. Together they recruited a faculty advisor Dr. Brett Johnson (an RMF Chapter member) and a club board of trustees and key chairpersons who are students across all class levels so that the club will have leadership continuity as older students graduate.

Dale Rellas is our RMF Chapter's designated Liaison to coordinate communications with and assist the CSU FF Club leadership. Dale can be contacted by email at dalerellas@gmail.com.

The **National TU Costa 5 Rivers** program organizes campus clubs that teach students fly casting and fly tying and also provide volunteer stream conservation activities on the members' home waters. Students in **TU Costa 5 Rivers** clubs have the chance to join a sponsoring TU Chapter in their region, lend a young voice, and help shape the TU of tomorrow.

Each campus club is independent and self-governed, and typically is encouraged and assisted by a TU Chapter if there is one nearby. In the article that follows, Jacob provides an update of some of their activities.

Greetings from the CSU Fly Fishing Club!

By Jacob Pitt, Club President

The CSU 5 Rivers Fly Fishing Club club has had a great semester so far, and we are all wondering where the time has gone. The club is doing well, with strong attendance at each event this semester. The club has been led by officers Jacob Pitt, Collin Metscher, Ben Bradfield, Eeland Stribling, and Will Lennon. As we enter December and the weather is getting colder and colder, we are excited for what 2018 will hold.

We started off the semester with a beginner's day at the Prospect Ponds in September, where experienced club members instructed beginners how to cast and fish a fly rod, with the rods we borrowed from the Flycasters. This was a great way to kick off the semester, and many people caught their first fish and had a great introduction to the sport.

The club also attended the Bash for Boulder Creek at the RepYourWater headquarters, hosted by RepYourWater and Pig Farm Ink. This was a party and cook out with live music and good times. RepYourWater was generous enough to donate some of the proceeds to our club, and this has helped and will help tremendously in the future!

Shortly after, we had a casting night at City Park led by St. Peter's fly casting instructor Caley Smith. Members came to learn how to cast, and some came to cast for fun. *The Collegian*, CSU's student newspaper, did a short video on this event, and the link to that video is here: <https://collegian.com/2017/09/rampage-its-a-catch-fall-fishing-near-fort-collins/>



Club member Kelsey with a Green Sunfish; her first fish on a fly rod

In October, the club participated in a **Wildlands Restoration Volunteers** project on Left Hand Creek, along with the CSU Watershed club and CSU Ecosystem Science and Sustainability club. Activities included laying down fertilizers, mulch, and seeds of native grasses, erosion control fabric, and planting willows along with other native trees/shrubs. This was a great time, and many members had fun while learning about restoration techniques, and giving back to the environment.



Group picture from WRV project of CSU Fly Fishing Club, Watershed Club, and Ecosystem Science and Sustainability members.

The club also held a few tying nights this semester, and that will be something we continue to do especially as the weather becomes colder. The tying nights begin with lessons on how to tie your first fly, and are followed by social/free tying. These nights are always fun and a great place for members to have fun tying, learn something new, and get to know each other better.

During the second weekend of October, some club members made the trip down to Gunnison to fish, hang out, and pick up trash with the Gunnison Sockeyes and the DU (Denver University) fly fishing clubs. Members



Club member Brandon with a nice Kokanee

arrived Friday night and camped throughout the weekend. Many salmon were caught, and some people from all three schools had their first experience with the sport. A river clean-up was held on Saturday, followed by an Iron Fly/fly tying night that evening. We hope to have more events and gatherings with both the Sockeyes and the DU fly fishing club in the future. This was a really fun time, and an awesome way to meet people from different schools in Colorado with the same interests/passions.

Connor explained the basics of fly fishing in the winter including insect life, fly selection, appropriate gear, as well as many other things. This information is becoming much more relevant as we enter this time of year! This was a fun time, and the club expects to have more guest speakers and presentations next semester.

In November the club had a winter fly fishing presentation by club founder and CSU alum Connor Murphy. Connor did a fantastic job, and catered to the audience of mostly beginners that seemed to absorb a lot from the presentation.

We are happy with how this semester has gone, and we are already looking forward to next semester and what we will accomplish. We want to thank you all for the support, and want to have more Flycaster/CSU club events in 2018. Tight Lines.



Members from the three schools with trash picked up from the river. (Many that attended are not pictured)

From Past President Wil Huett



The letter copied below is from Lefty Kreh and appeared in the Trout Unlimited Forum. Since many of you consider “Lefty” a special friend, I thought you would be interested in reading this letter about his physical condition. In addition, check out the article in the Baltimore Magazine at <http://www.baltimoremagazine.com/2016/5/16/big-fish-the-legendary-life-of-lefty-kreh>.

To my friends,

I was 92 in January and had a carotid artery operation. During testing the hospital determined my heart was only pumping 35% and must limit my physical activities followed by a rest. The industry was extremely helpful and last season was able to attend the shows, clinics, etc.

Several weeks ago, I realized I was developing another problem, which is normal for someone nearly 93. It turns out I have congested heart failure. My pacemaker revealed there was a series of very rapid heart beats, which could cause a stroke. Fortunately a lot of doctor/friends are fly-fisherman and worked with me. In summary I have to give up travel and presentations as in the past.

Everyone produces a certain amount of fluid in the body and excretes the excess. Because of the low heartbeat my body is not getting rid of all the fluids and I gained weight. My best friend Dr. Mark Lamos put me in the hospital and with back procedure they twice removed a liter and a half of fluid from my chest. After five days in the hospital. I lost weight.

A week or so later I starting gaining weight again so it was back in the hospital for the same treatment. They reduced most of the fluid and returned home. I determined I was not going to continue back to the hospital. Mark decided to use medicine to control the excess fluid. It's been a fine-tuning situation but looks like it's starting work.

This means the schedule I lived for decades is no longer valid and will spend most my time at home. As we get older we learn to adjust to what we can and cannot do. I have a number of interesting computer home projects on the computer and busier than a Syrian bricklayer. I'm not frustrated and I'm content My problem is I don't have a lot of stamina and have to work around that. If Marks medical system works I should be busy and around for a year or two.

I would like to be able to send this email to my friends but I don't really know how to do this. So I'm asking others to help me spread the word through email. Because my lack of energy and stamina I having trouble answering emails (there are more than 400 on the computer) and not talking much on the phone. This is not meant to be unfriendly is learning to adjuster my situation.

In summary I'm busy and content but I want you to know I am so appreciative you've have shared your lives with me.

All The Best Friends,
Lefty

Opportunities for Flycasters

Swap Flies?



The fly of the month for December for our monthly Fly Swap is a midge nymph or emerger. Flies should be brought to the Holiday Party with a recipe toe tag to share with the other participants. You will get a fly in return from each participant. Currently we need 8 copies of your fly. For January, we will be tying Beadheads of any kind. It's fun to see how creative our members are. Contact **Dave Morse** or call 217-418-9386.

Support Our Vets?



The Platte Rivers Veteran Flyfishing Program has begun with weekly flytying classes in Loveland. If you are a vet, you are welcome to join us and pick up some flytying skills. All materials and equipment are provided at no cost. In January we will begin our rod making classes in both Loveland and Greeley. If you would like to be a mentor, we'd love to have your assistance. If you would like to be a demonstration tyer for one night, also give me a call. Contact the RMF TU Veterans Program Coordinator, Dave Morse, for more information or to volunteer.

It is very gratifying work and we go fishing too. Phone 217-418-9386 or email **Dave Morse**.

How about a Driftboat?



50% ownership opportunity: 2004 Hyde Low Profile Series Driftboat: \$2500.00 for 50% ownership.

Buyer would also share annual costs such as insurance, trailer registration, and storage. If interested, please contact Mark Miller (970-744-8229).

Want to Tell Your Fishing Stories?



Every time I fish or socialize with RMF members and friends, I hear wonderful captivating stories about fishing adventures. We all have them-you're not an angler if you don't. Why not have one or more published in The Flypaper? If you are interested or have questions contact **Bob Green**, The Flypaper Editor.

Or Send Us a Video



Just send a link think to [The Flypaper Editor](#). It will be considered for a future video of the month.

Share a few experiences or a laugh. Did you see something online or did you record a great Experience? Share it!!

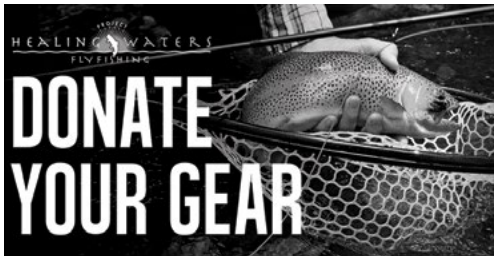
Want a fishing buddy?



I created [FindAFishingBuddy.com](#) a couple of years ago. I recently launched [FindAFishingClub.com](#), the largest directory of active fishing clubs in the US. Your chapter (RMF) is including on our roster.

Thanks, Chuck Christopher.

Donate Your Gear



Rocky Mountain Flycasters will be collecting donated fishing gear so we can equip needy veterans participating in our Healing Waters program. This can include serviceable waders, boots, nets, vests, rods and reels, etc. There will be a collection box at the May TU meeting, or call Dave Morse to arrange a pick-up. (217-418-9386). Thanks for your support!

Or, would you like to be the RMF Treasurer?



Treasurer - need an experienced accountant/bookkeeper with knowledge of QuickBooks. Ideal for a retired accountant/bookkeeper who would like to donate those skills to a great organization. If you are interested in the position or merely want more information, please contact [Tom Culbertson](#) or 970-541-7029 or 970-685 1401 (cell).



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