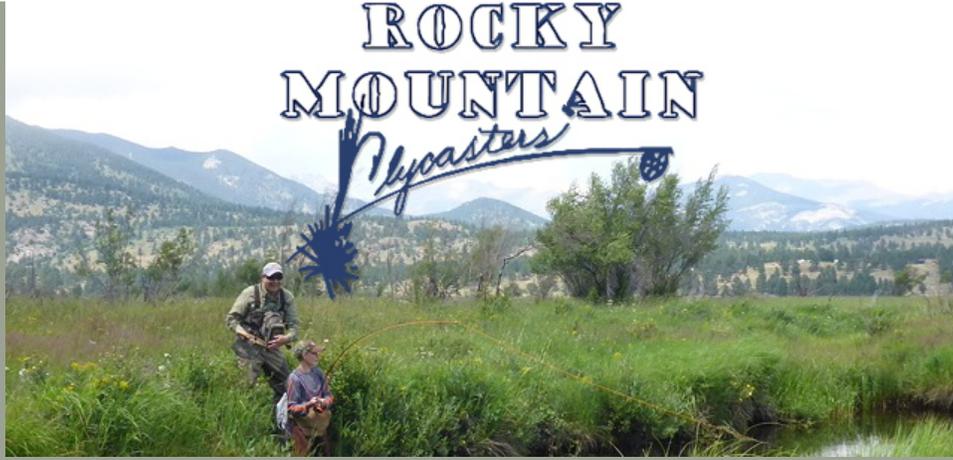


ROCKY MOUNTAIN Flycasters



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From the President



“What a revolting development!”, my father used to exclaim when something went awry. As you know, we are in the midst of a pandemic, the scope of which hasn't been seen since the 1918 Spanish flu pandemic that killed many millions of people world wide. Fortunately, we have seen a revolution within our medical community to care for severely ill patients, our experts are much more knowledgeable about quarantines and the impact of social activities, and our state has taken positive steps to minimize the spread of this novel corona virus. As part of these proactive measures, by order of Chris Wood, our CEO, we have cancelled all face to face Chapter gatherings at least through the middle of April, including our April General Membership Chapter meeting. Your Leadership Team will discuss various options, including virtual meetings and get back with you should we be able to hold our general meetings. Right now, our regularly scheduled leadership meeting will be held on the Zoom platform April 8. Please let me know if you would like to be included. Be sure to visit our [website](#) for up-to-the-minute changes.

Although we have been following governmental guidelines for social distancing, the leadership team has still been active. The website redevelopment team is working on a new website, I was able to participate in a Zoom Board meeting with the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition and Colin was active with the Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed. There have been numerous phone calls, as usual, to discuss administrative and programmatic details that keep our chapter running. And, most importantly, I am pleased to announce that Mark Miller has become our new media outreach coordinator! Thanks, Mark and a special thank you to past president and long time member Wil Huett for doing this job for many years.



I want to thank Colin Glover for filling in for me while I was in New Zealand fishing. For a brief synopsis of my trip see my contribution below.

The state is urging people to get outside and walk, jog, bicycle, hike and, yes, fish. So, send us your pictures for how you are doing with the stay at home order and we will post them on Facebook (Mark Miller) and our website (Paul Wehr.) Be sure to enclose a caption!

For now, stay well.

Mickey McGuire,
President

April Membership Meeting

Details about the April membership meeting are being discussed. It will likely be online. This information will be forwarded by email.

Other Coming Events In April



Board Meeting

When: Wednesday, April 8
Time: 6:00 PM
Where: Online via Zoom



Social Fly Tying

When: First Wednesday each month, (when COVID-19 is over).
Time: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Where: Gilded Goat Brewing Company, 3500 South College, Fort Collins, CO (next to Trader Joe's). We tie in the mezzanine.

Fly Swap

Although we will not be swapping flies at the upcoming April General Meeting, I think it will be fun to go ahead and tie your April Terrestrials (Ants, Beetles, Hoppers, etc.). Keep them for our next in person general meeting for a Grand Fly Swap, when you can bring your March (Caddis nymphs), April (Terrestrials), and likely May swap flies. I will send out the May theme in next month's Flypaper.



Remember to attach a recipe “toe tag” to each of your flies. You will get a similar theme fly from each of the other tiers. Make 11 flies for April and keep them in a safe place until we meet in person or are tempted to test them yourself on the water.

Many of our RMF tiers have been using our “stay at home” time to create and donate a dozen flies to Reel Recovery, a cancer recovery and support organization for use in Colorado. I just finished my 6th dozen. See this month’s pic, above with some Woolly Buggers, Thin Mints and Semi-Seal leaches I am donating. Contact **Mark Miller** to select a pattern from Reel Recovery’s choice flies list and go ahead and tie up a dozen or two.

See you soon!
Your Fly Swapper, Dave Morse

Spotlight on Past President Lee Evans

If you have been a member of the Rocky Mountain Flycasters for any period of time you certainly know Lee Evans. What you might not know about him is that he is a Colorado native, born in Pueblo and raised in Rocky Ford. Or, that he won a 7 weight fly rod at the raffle. He offers the photo at the left as proof. Both photos were taken on the Yampa River. The photo on the right includes Paul Russell of Yampa River Outfitters. You also might not know that came to Northern Colorado in 1962 as a freshman at Colorado State University. He graduated in 1967, and took a teaching job in Loveland. He retired in 2000 after teaching junior high/middle school mathematics. He has been married to Sandie for 56 years and counting, and has 4 kids and 10 grandchildren.



He joined Rocky Mountain Flycasters in 1999 at the encouragement of his son, Greg, a past-president of RM-F. Lee has served in various roles on the board since 2000. He has been membership chair, secretary, and served three terms as president.

Presently, he organizes volunteers for the NFS Kids' free fishing day, recruits tiers for the annual Fly Tying Expo, and runs the memorable White Elephant gift exchange at the Holiday Party. He is committed to the mission of TU and urges all members to become actively involved with RMF's many activities.

He also wants people to know that fishing licenses expired at the end of March!

From Mark Miller, Our (new) Community Outreach Point of Contact



First off, I would like to say thanks to Wil Huett for his efforts as our chapter Community Outreach point of contact. Wil and I have been meeting over the last two months to help get me trained so that I can gradually take over the duties of this position. I will still be leaning on him for a while to take advantage of his experience and knowledge. Thanks Wil !

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF):

A few months ago I received an Action Alert from Colorado TU – Hopefully you did also – about the LWCF.

For more than 50 years, the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has invested more than \$278 million in Colorado's public lands and outdoor recreation - all without relying on taxpayer dollars.

Unfortunately, the promise of LWCF has not always been kept. Over the program's history, more than \$22 billion has been diverted from the \$900 million/year that are earmarked toward LWCF. Now, two companion bills (S.1081 in the Senate, H.R. 3195 in the House) would solve that problem by ensuring full funding to the LWCF on a permanent basis. Senators Bennet and Gardner were both sponsors of S.1081.

Fast forward to March 12th, 2020: Introduced by Sen. Murkowski (R-AK) and Sen. Cantwell (D-WA), the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act approved permanent authorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). With broad bipartisan support, S. 47 passed the Senate 92-8 on February 12, 2019 and the House of Representatives 363-62 on February 26, 2019. On March 12, 2019, the President signed permanent authorization of LWCF into public law, culminating a major victory for public land and outdoor recreation opportunities.

Bears in Colorado:

Coloradans had more than 500 encounters with bears in the last nine months of last year according to new data from Colorado Parks and Wildlife. Fully one-third of those interactions involved bears getting into trash. More than 90 bears had to be euthanized in 2019 — a big increase over the previous year. So...when in bear country, please be careful and keep a clean camp.

Fishing With A Friend: A Travelogue

By Mickey Mcguire

Gene Decker approached me in November to ask if I wanted to travel to the South Island of New Zealand to fish. I hemmed and hawed a bit and talked with my wife and she encouraged me to go. Of course, she also wanted to go. We had been there in 2011 doing the tourist thing and we both absolutely loved the country; probably our favorite vacation! I asked Gene about Vonne going and he asked if she fished; I said no as did he. Nevertheless, Vonne told me to go! I was still a little anxious; Gene is nearing 90, he was a relatively new acquaintance and I wasn't quite sure how things would be. Gene has traveled to NZ for the past 30 years to fish and meet with his friends there. One of his past travel companions was Doc Sheets; I know a lot of you knew him. As an emeritus CSU forestry/wildlife biologist faculty member, Gene had given workshops and lectures in New Zealand and hosted some of their students in Fort Collins. So, I knew he was familiar with the country and the people. I also talked with his daughter about Gene's health. She said as far as she knew, he was in excellent health and, while she offered to go with him, he said no because she doesn't fish. My wife felt better about that!

So, off we went leaving Loveland on Thursday February 20, the day after our Rocky Mountain Flycasters Fly Tying Expo. We arrived in Auckland on Saturday the 22nd and connected to Christchurch. We were met at the airport by Gene's long time friend Ross Millichamp, the former regional fisheries manager for Canterbury Province. In addition, Ross is an author and known world wide for his work with the New Zealand salmon populations. Salmon were introduced to New Zealand in the late 1800s from California and Ross grew up fishing for them. Ross was off hunting on Stewart Island in 2008 and became infected with a rare flesh eating bacteria. He almost died and was left with two artificial legs and loss of other faculties. But, he owns and flies an airplane, operates a jet boat and enjoys other tools of the sportsman's trade. He and his wife Jinny, who is a physician warmly welcomed us into their house. That night, Ross' parents came to dinner as did an American couple from Washington State. Ross and Ginny had never met them but they were friends of a friend and were welcomed to join us, even though the friend was not there. The warmth of the New Zealand natives is astounding.

After a good night's sleep, we flew to Dunedin where we rented a car and headed west. Gene had made reservations for a motel in Alexandra, about half way between Dunedin and Queenstown. Alexandra is a quiet town with several restaurants that is experiencing growth from people moving out of Queenstown. As with many tourist destinations, New Zealand is seeing an influx of wealthy people from around the world that have caused consternation about the vitality of Queenstown. So, folks are relocating to Alexandra and other surrounding communities. The motel was cozy, had two bedrooms, a kitchen and a bathroom. Nothing fancy but certainly acceptable for a fishing headquarters. About 6 that night, Gene said "Let's go fishing"! I said really? He said it would be good to get out and stretch our legs so off we went. We drove about 15 minutes and started fishing on the Manaherikia, a smaller river, perhaps the size of the Poudre in September. It was a beautiful evening and, although I had a few strikes neither one of us landed anything. But Gene was right; it felt really good to get out, dust off the fishing cobwebs and stretch our legs.

About 9 am the next morning, the phone started ringing. Several of Gene's friends were in contact to organize our fishing outings. We had planned to fish with Saul, a young married man with two small children. He showed up with his former boss, John who is 77, the salt of the earth (including his language!) and a bit of an amateur historian. James and Gerald also called on us and we made future plans with them. Saul, John, Gene



Lord of the Rings Country

and I piled into Saul's pickup and headed towards Poolburn Reservoir which had been constructed to provide irrigation water to orchards and vineyards in the valley below. It was quite a sight to see where they had filmed much of the Lord of the Rings Trilogy; the landscape was quite striking. Despite 8 hours of hard fishing by each of us, not a single fish was caught; Saul had a couple of strikes but that was it. Everyone was surprised because it was a beautiful day with a slight breeze and Saul, John and Gene had done very well there in past years.

[Click to Read Full Article](#)

From Mark Miller, Our Let's Go Fishing Coordinator

RMF 2020 Fishing Trip Listing



As most of us are staying home, following the Governor's Stay Home order, I'm wondering, as many of you are, how this pandemic will play out, and when it will subside.

Hopefully, according to some physicians, the heat of summer may help slow it down. Let's hope and pray that it does. And to those of you who are still working, thank you. And a special thanks to those of you in the medical career field – thank you for your heroic efforts on a daily basis! Please stay safe.

So, needless to say, we have no idea if and when any of our chapter fishing trips will be possible. I will con-

tact all those who have signed up, about 2-3 weeks ahead of the scheduled date, to inform them if the trip is cancelled or not. My best guess is that we will need to cancel all trips into June and possibly into July or later.

As you can see below, some months still have trips that are in the planning stage, with exact dates and locations to be nailed down over the next month or so.

We will also have some of our trips scheduled for weekdays, since we have many retired chapter members who prefer to fish during the week to avoid the weekend crowds.

If you are a new or beginner fly fisherman, we want you to join us for our trips – we love to help anyone get started in fly fishing, and help people learn new skills or techniques.

Please contact **Mark Miller** to let him know if you are interested in any of these trips.

Wherever you decide to fish this year, good luck and tight lines!

April 10-12	Gray Reef	Host: Ben Zomer
	Rescheduled for Oct 2-4	
Apr 29-May 4	Green River/Seedskaadee Nat'l Wildlife Refuge	Host: Mark Miller
	Camping is the name of the game for this trip.	
May 27	Red Feather Lakes	Host: Bob Green
June 10-11	Possible Spinney Mtn Reservoir (2 day trip)	Host: Mark Miller
	Float tubing for big rainbows (Wed-Thurs)	
July 11	Colorado River Headwaters	Host: Dennis Cook

July 16-19
July – TBD

Gunnison River (tentative dates)
RMNP- Hike 4 miles to Sky Pond
Big Brookies

Host: Dennis Cook
Host: Ben Zomer

July 17-20

Fish North Park – Ponds & N Platte River
Cabin on the Ginger Quill Ranch

Host: Eric Pettine

July 18

Long Draw Reservoir – Float tubes
for nice sized cutthroats

Host: Dave Morse

Aug TBD

RMNP Small Stream Fishing (weekday trip)

Host: Bill Gillett/Art C.

Sep TBD

Colo River wade trip, 2-3 days

Host: Bobby Bottles

Oct 28-30

Colorado River – 3 day float trip

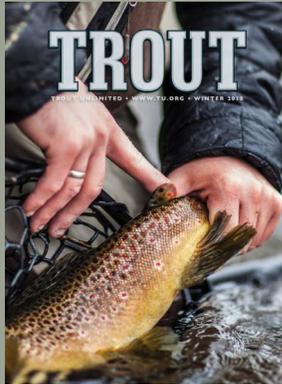
Host: Mark Miller

Online Fly Fishing Magazine Library

High Country
Angler

MONTANA
FLY FISHING MAGAZINE

 **DUN** Magazine



Hatch Magazine



The New
FlyFisher

Donate and Buy

Make a Donation



Check Out Horsetooth Reservoir for Bass!



RMF Vice President Colin Glover recently went out to the Horsetooth and took these pictures. Looks like the bass haven't been slowed by the COVID-19, nor is the reservoir less beautiful.

Finally, Some Inspiration....



Rocky Mountain Flycasters Sustaining Donors



St. Peter's Fly Shop



John & Tharon Deakins

In Memory of Linda
Jefferies

Carl Kronberg

Dennis Cook

Bob Green

Wil Huett

Dr. Dale Rellas

Rocky Mountain
Angling Club

Jay Burge

Art Campfield

Yang Qian & Edward
McConnaughey

Lee Evans

Fidelity Charitable

Great Lakes
Chiropractic

Chris Kruger

Loveland Brewery

Kirk Madsen

Jonathan McHugh

Mark Miller

Mishawaka

Dave Morse

Eric Pettine

Rep Your Water

Michael Ringus

Domingo Rodriguez

Ted Sammond

Sara Bella Fishing
Scheels

Sportsman's
Warehouse

Norma Stallsworth

Paul Wehr

Zen Tenkara Flyfishing

5030 Local

Jimmy Head

Jay's Bistro

Linda Jefferies

Phil Keller

Jeannie Weaver

Sustaining Donors are recognized for a full year. <https://rockymtnflycasters.org/articles/donors.php>

2020-04-01

Sustaining Donors