



February 2012
Edition

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Dear Bryon,

It's snowing like crazy today and the weather is perfect for an evening with some of the best fly tiers in our region. The Rocky Mountain Flycasters Annual Fly Tying Expo is happening on Wednesday, February 15, at 5:30 pm at the [Fort Collins Senior Center](#). At this writing, twenty-one tiers have committed to sharing their expertise with all of us. Bring a notepad and keep track of the new ideas, suggestions, and methods these experienced and professional tiers offer.

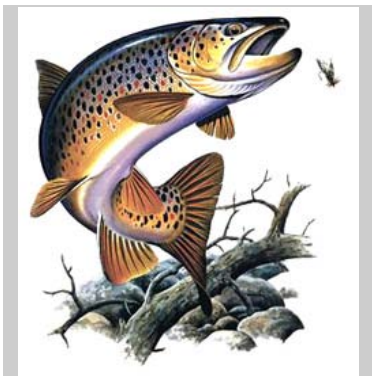
Old Chicago's on Harmony has supplied us with pizza that always is delicious. The Hilton Garden Inn is donating chocolate chip cookies to go with the pizza, salad, and soft drink for a delicious meal.

Your entrance fee will get you the meal, and 10 raffle tickets to be used as you see fit. There will be 20 bucket raffles for the flies tied that evening and also a bucket raffle for a Stone Creek rod. We will also be selling more raffle tickets if you feel you need more than 10.

Our silent auction has an Elkhorn and a Winston rod, a reel, a float tube, gear bag, pictures, a Behnke book, and many other items. Please bring your checkbook and bid on these items. This is always a fun activity, and many people will go home with some really quality gear.

This is our only large fund raising activity for the year, and I want to thank you in advance for your support. All money raised will go toward our club's many conservation activities. This coming summer will be a busy one for our volunteers, and we will need funds to support our mission.

Call up a friend or two, and bring them. The Expo is open to the



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public, so spread the word. If you are an inexperienced tier, and would like to learn more, this is exactly the place to be. Our own Guy Turenne will instruct beginner tiers, and they will go away with a fly they tied. We especially encourage our youth to take advantage of this opportunity to tie a fly.

We always have a good time at the Expo. Go to our [website](#) to find more details. We learn a lot, eat well, and enjoy the discussions with tiers and other attendees. I really look forward to seeing you there.

[Lee Evans](#), President
Rocky Mountain Flycasters

Fishing is a quest for knowledge and wonder as much as a pursuit of fish. ~Paul Schullery

Defending the Colorado River

[Dave Piske](#), Conservation Chair



The fight to defend the Colorado River from irreparable harm to the trout fishery in the reaches downstream from Windy Gap Reservoir moved into a new stage on January 26 when a robust crowd of river advocates participated in a rally sponsored by Trout Unlimited. The rally was at the front door of the Environmental Protection Agency office in downtown Denver. The purpose of the rally was to deliver to the EPA the petitions signed by all those who supported the Defend the Colorado campaign. For all of our readers who joined the Defend the Colorado campaign, our thanks for your support. A decision as to what mitigation actions are to be taken to preserve, and hopefully improve the Colorado River is now in the hands of the EPA.

[Click here for a report on the rally](#)

[Click here to see it on YouTube](#)

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing

[Bruce Peck](#), PHWFF Coordinator



Picture Courtesy of TU Trout Calendar, July 2012

Greetings, my name is Bruce Peck, I live in Windsor, Colorado. Many of you are aware that there are numerous volunteer organizations that have been started, particularly during the past ten years, that strive to help disabled veterans heal from physical and mental wounds they have that resulted from their military service, both combat and non-combat related. One organization that is doing that on the national level is [Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing](#) (PHWFF). Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and veterans through fly fishing and fly tying education and outings. PHWFF currently has 105 programs in 38 states. Each program is managed at the local level by volunteers and based at a Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) facility, Department of Defense (DoD) military installation, or other location. PHWFF has 14 geographic regions throughout the United States.

My co-lead, [Chris Lamson](#), and I are now in the process of establishing a PHWFF program here in the Fort Collins/Northern Colorado area. We recently secured permission from the [Cheyenne VA Medical Center](#) and the Fort Collins VA Clinic to work through them to establish a program, and now we are attempting to gather volunteers and establish a program schedule to offer to interested disabled vets in the area. PHWFF programs are associated with and draw volunteers from Federation of Fly Fishers clubs (39 clubs), Trout Unlimited chapters (40 chapters), and independent clubs (24 independent clubs). Program Leads from PHWFF coordinate with DVA and DoD employees to plan and administer the fly fishing program in accordance with the provisions set forth by PHWFF and the DoD and VA facilities' requirements. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is signed by PHWFF and an interested fly fishing club to formalize a relationship. As we progress, we greatly welcome RMF TU

Chapter affiliation and individual volunteers willing to be involved with the program, including teaching courses, casting lessons, possibly fly tying classes, and helping with fishing trips when we get to that stage. This is a great opportunity to help those who served our country and paid a heavy price, and to introduce them to fly fishing, which we all have a passion for and already understand what a great form of recreation and "therapy" fly fishing is. Fly fishing is an activity that can greatly help these wounded warriors lead a better life.

We are excited to start a program here in Northern Colorado and hope that many of you will be interested in helping. Please check out the website for more information, and anyone who would like to volunteer their time and skills can contact your local program leads, me via [email](#) or phone (808-256-8480), Chris Lamson via [email](#) or phone (720-233-4114), or Gary Spuhler, the PHWFF Rocky Mountain Regional Coordinator via [email](#) or phone (719-291-3112).

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Rocky Mountain Flycasters' Annual Fly Tying Expo



Wednesday, February 15, 2012 from 5:30–9:00 p.m.

Nearly two dozen professional and experienced tiers from our region will converge in Fort Collins for this annual event to demonstrate their fly tying skills and share tips on tying and fishing with their special flies.

Every year, well over 100 people attend the RMF Fly Tying Expo.

This year the Expo will be even larger and better.

- Well-known tiers share their skills and tips
- Food from Old Chicago
- Random drawings for each tier's flies
- Random drawing for a terrific fly rod
- Silent auctions for many quality equipment items, supplies, books, etc.
- Beginner's table where you can learn to tie your own flies

Admission: \$20 per person (\$10 for students with ID). With the price of admission, you get a plate of food and a beverage, ten (10) raffle tickets (five (5) for students) for the fly and rod drawings, and a wealth of tying and fishing information.

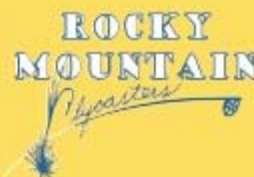
Don't miss this once-a-year opportunity.

When: February 15, 2012, 5:30-9:00 PM

Where: Fort Collins Senior Center
1200 Raintree Drive
Fort Collins, CO

www.rockymtnflycasters.org/cal/cal.php

Learn from Rick Takahashi, Marty Staub, Dave Coulson, Jerry Hubka, Connor Murphy, Dennis Martin, Jason Haddix, Caleb Van Wagner, Mark Tracy, Marc McMillan, Dick Shinton, Jake Ruthven, Ted Meredith, Al Ritt, Grant Houx, Jin Choi, Tanner Irwin, Guy Turenne, and others.



Residential Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp

[Dennis Cook](#), Youth Outreach Chair

Colorado TU is now accepting applications for their annual residential conservation and fly fishing youth camp. The dates of the camp are June 10th through June 15th and it will be held at High Lonesome Range in DeBeque, Colorado. RMF contributes each year to support Colorado TU's outstanding annual youth camp at which campers live together in a tent village learning about fly fishing and the conservation interests necessary to preserve the water quality of Colorado's rivers. Applications must be received by April 15th. The Colorado TU point of contact is Mike Nicholson, Camp Director. You can contact Mike via [email](#) or telephone (303-987-8425).



[Click here to learn more and apply.](#)

RMF Board of Trustees: Nominations Opportunity

[Dennis Cook](#), Nominations Committee Chair

Chapter members are requested and encouraged to step forward and volunteer to become members of RMF's Chapter Board of Trustees by contacting one of the four Nominations Committee members listed below. Members are also encouraged to refer names of other members who they believe may be willing to consider serving on the Board. While some leadership experience can be helpful, most important is that persons be interested in RMF's success, enthusiastic about current or possible new programs or other chapter forms of progress, and supportive of Trout Unlimited's conservation mission.

Our seven-person Chapter Board of Trustees consists of Officers (President, Vice President, Treasurer & Secretary), Immediate Past President and two Trustees-At-Large. All positions stand for re-election annually at our May annual membership meeting. The names of nominees are required to be posted on the RMF website no less than ten days before the May meeting date. Further nominations can be made from the floor during the annual meeting election process.

All Trustees positions are elected annually to one-year terms. The President may be re-elected for three successive one year terms, and all other positions are re-electable for unlimited successive terms. It is desirable for 'new blood' to be regularly introduced onto the Board along with existing members. This enables more members to become familiar with chapter matters and brings new perspectives and ideas into Board discussions and decisions, helping the Board to remain faithful to membership preferences.

[Click here to view a copy of the RMF Bylaws which provide additional information about these leadership opportunities.](#)

Click on one of the names below to contact a member of the Nominating Committee:

[Dennis Cook](#)

[Lee Evans](#)

[Stephanie Mullins](#)

[Bob Streeter](#)

RMF Youth Fly Fishing Day Camp

[Dennis Cook](#), Youth Outreach Chair

It's important for members to urge their children, grandchildren and friends' kids to apply early because this year's Day Camp has been advertised in the Fort Collins Recreator catalog, spring issue...and we've already received feedback from parents about registrations. We expect applications to fill quickly. The dates of the day camp are July 30th through August 4th.

Our hope this year is to increase sponsors' and sustaining members' donations so successful camp graduates who don't have equipment can receive a rod and loaded reel, enabling them to continue enjoying the outdoors while improving their fishing skills and increasing their conservation awareness.



It takes a lot of volunteers to run the youth day camp and we need your help. Many of you have volunteered your time and talent in the past and it is greatly appreciated.

[Click here to view the preliminary volunteer schedule.](#)

Please take a good look at it, reserve the dates on your calendar, and then [send me an email](#) letting me know your availability. New volunteers with questions about any of the sessions can also call me at 970-372-9229.



Another way that you can support the youth day camp is to provide some flies. We have been unable to provide flies to campers to encourage post-camp fishing and we would like to change that. Thank you in advance for your generous support of our youth.

[Click here to view a list of flies that are needed.](#)

And for those members who wish to help support RMF's youth programs or perhaps the Youth Day Camp specifically, we encourage you to make a tax deductible "designated" donation. You can donate online from our secure website and any amount is greatly appreciated.

[Click here to make a tax deductible donation.](#)

RMF Leadership Council Opportunities

[Dennis Cook](#), Youth Outreach Chair

Many of our members are looking for ways to become more involved with the Chapter. A great way to do this is to volunteer to serve on the Chapter's leadership council. Simply contact Lee Evans, our Chapter President, via [email](#) or telephone (970-443-0197), and you are on your way to making a difference in our Chapter. We value your time and talent as well as your commitment to TU's mission and we promise to provide lots of help and assistance.

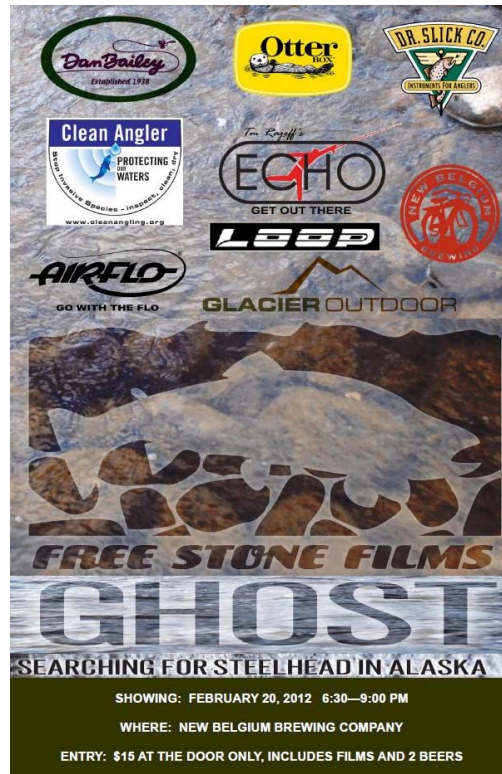
The two positions that are open for 2013 include the Youth Day Camp Coordinator and the Trout in the Classroom (TIC) Coordinator. Dennis Cook is currently serving in these positions and he has offered to provide continuity as well as detailed records, contacts, etc.

Free Stone Films: "Ghost - Searching for Steelhead in Alaska"

[JD Murphy](#), Chapter Member

A new film, "Ghost - Searching for Steelhead in Alaska" will be shown on February 20th at New Belgium Brewery in Fort Collins from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm. The admission cost of \$15 includes the film and two beers. New Belgium Brewery is a proud sponsor of our Chapter.

[Click here for more information.](#)



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