



April 2017

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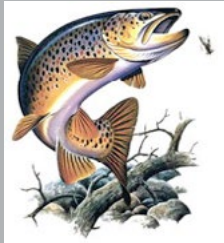
Let's Go Fishing

Sustaining Donors

RMF Quick Link



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Forward to a Friend

From the President

It was a gorgeous Rocky Mountain morning. I had just donned my waders and wading boots, grabbed my net, slipped on my sling pack and locked up the truck. With rod in hand, I walked beside one of the best friends I have in the world toward a historic Colorado trout stream.

We rarely get to fish together so this was a special treat. He had flown from his home in Dallas the evening before to spend four days fishing with me. There in the bright sunlight of that warm spring day I spoke the singular thought on my mind, "I love everything about this."

It was a thought that would linger in the recesses of my mind and surface again and again over the next few weeks. Sitting at my tying bench making my own custom modifications to a well-know fly pattern, I felt a deep-down happiness. Leaving home at 5:30 on a Sunday morning to join Ben, Bobby and Dave in Wyoming and hooking a fat rainbow within five minutes put an un-removable smile on my face. Sitting in the back of the boat behind Marty and Wayne as we drifted over new water under that big blue western sky gave me that feeling of euphoria. Patiently making cast after to cast to a big cut-bow and finally seeing him take my fly made a six-hour drive in the rain completely worth it. Sharing beers at sunset in front of the cabin with friends on a chapter trip after a hard day of fishing, I said those words again, "I love everything about this."

I love the gear and the gadgets. I love the long drives and road conversations. I love the variety of water and weather. I love that trout live in beautiful places. I love nymphing and casting dries. I'm learning to love streamers and I'm willing to try that long-poled, touch sensitive method that came over from Europe. I love lunches on the tailgate and crockpot dinners in the cabin. I love the sunrise anticipation and the sunset satisfaction. I even love the days when the fish don't cooperate because a bad day fishing is better than a good day doing almost anything else.

I love everything about this great sport of ours. That's why I'm proud to be part of Rocky Mountain Flycasters. I'm proud to support our conservation



Coy Wiley, 2016-2017 President
Rocky Mountain Flycasters

projects, our veterans programs and the educational opportunities for all ages. I'm proud to be associated with you. I suspect you love everything about this too.

Coy Wylie, President
Rocky Mountain Flycasters

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



Filling up the Calendar

Our calendar pages are some of the most frequently visited on our web site. Wouldn't it be great to see your own pictures displayed there? There are many opportunities for months into the future. Pictures that are well-lit, in focus, on TU topic, and a minimum of 530 pixels wide and 400 pixel in height. Send a copy of fishing or conservation-related pictures to:

[Paul Wehr, Webmaster](#)



April Membership Meeting



Dane Johnson

Our first speaker is Dane Johnson, a sophomore in the International Baccalaureate program at Poudre High School and a graduate from our 2015 Youth Day Camp. He will present at our April 19th meeting, speaking about his experience gained through our annual Day Camp, and also a bit about his experience at national TU's 2016 Teen Summit. Dane recently commented about his Day Camp week that he ..."was glad to have had such a wonderful time at the camp both through the service aspect and the fishing." Dane maintains his Rocky Mountain Flycasters membership beyond his post-camp free first year.

Dane is an enthusiastic and active youth outdoors, and his pleasure clearly is evident through his ever-present wide smile. He has summited Colorado's Mount Huron 14-er, volunteered with his twin brother for Wildlands Restoration Volunteers at the Skin Gulch Project in Poudre Canyon, continues his fly fishing, and also enjoys fish artwork.

Dane's enthusiasm carried over into 2016 when he also applied to attend national Trout Unlimited's Annual Teen Summit & Leadership Conference at Georgetown Lake in Montana. The Teen Summit emphasizes conservation, leadership and service through workshops, and only 25 youths are selected nationwide from among closely screened.



Our second speaker has a background in river restoration, inter-agency collaboration, and public outreach. Tracy oversaw river restoration project construction, conducted hydrological surveys, and implemented monitoring plans to measure project success. Tracy has also worked for Montana Trout Unlimited and Five Valleys Land Trust as the coordinator for a large restoration project on Rock Creek and as a fish technician on the Blackfoot River for Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. Community service is important to Tracy - she served on the board of directors for the WestSlope Chapter of Trout Unlimited for three years and volunteers often with other organizations. She has also served on the executive committee of the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society.

Tracy holds a Master's of Science from the University of Montana in Resource Conservation. Her thesis focused on the relationship between funding sources and best management practices in river restoration projects in the Rocky Mountain West. She also holds a Bachelor's of Science from UM in Resource Conservation with a minor in Restoration Ecology. In addition, she has attended applied fluvial geomorphology training with Wildland Restoration

and is an American Fisheries Society Certified Associate Professional.

The Big Thompson Watershed Coalition currently has five projects under construction on the Big Thompson and the North Fork - with approximately seven more to come this year! These projects are to repair damage from the 2013 flood, protect people and property in future events, and to improve habitat for fish and wildlife. Tracy will be discuss the current and upcoming projects, which includes rebuilding the fishing pier that was destroyed in the flood. Please see the "Conservation Notes" section of this newsletter for a link to the Coalition's most recent River Report.

Note: The Senior Center is located on Raintree off Shields Avenue between Prospect and Drake. Please enter from the main entrance. The north entrance is now routinely locked for security reasons.



April Conservation Notes

Current Progress in Big Thompson Flood Recovery Projects

Highway 34 between Loveland and Estes Park has been closed to most traffic for several months. Consequently, the progress in extensive river recovery projects and the coordinated Highway 34 reconstruction project has been invisible to the general public. Now, with the cooperation of the CDOT project managers and the Big Thompson Watershed Coalition staff, the massive extent of these coordinated projects can be seen in a series of photos and charts on the Big Thompson Coalition's web site www.bigthompson.org.

On the home page of the same website a click on "Breaking News" will open access to the 2017 Spring BTWC Newsletter. Then, scrolling through Project Updates will open a series of charts, photos, and narratives describing a massive set of implementation projects currently underway.



Dave Piske, Conservation Chair

Upcoming Workshop on Long Range Outlook for the Big Thompson

On May 3rd 2017, an assemblage of representatives from Colorado Watershed Institute, Colorado Watershed Assembly, Colorado Water Conservation Board, Northern Water, and Colorado Conservation Exchange, will convene a discussion about the major watershed challenges and opportunities in the Big Thompson over the next 20 years, as seen by the various sectors that benefit from a healthy watershed. The event will be held at the Northern Water Conservation District's offices in Berthoud. If you are interested in attending this event, please contact Shayna Jones for more information. shayna.jones@bigthompson.org or office phone 970-962-2768

Project Healing Waters

Fishing Gear Donations: Our TU chapter helps support the Platte Rivers Program for Project Healing Waters. This is for disabled and former military veterans and active duty members of the military. We hold weekly fly tying and rod making classes all Fall, Winter, and Spring. We have numerous needy vets who lack reels, fly line, boots and waders. So, if you have some serviceable fishing gear that you would like to donate to them, please bring it to the upcoming TU meetings. Contributions are tax deductible and receipts will be given for your donations.

Program Donations and Gala Banquet: Speaking of donations, Domingo Rodriguez, Joe O'Connor, Micah Foster and I will be selling tickets at the next TU meeting for our major, annual Project Healing Waters charity fundraiser, a Gala dinner/auction, to be held at the Little America Hotel in Cheyenne on Saturday evening, April 22nd. Come for a steak dinner, cash prizes, and to support the oral and silent auctions. It is great fun for a worthy cause! Tickets cost \$75. All proceeds will support this veterans program by providing fly rod kits, fly tying class materials and equipment, and dozens of fishing trips at NO EXPENSE for these vets who unselfishly served our country. If you or your company would like to show your gratitude and support this program with tax deductible cash donations, sponsorship of a table at the Gala or oral/silent auction items, such as weekend use of a cabin, fishing or hunting gear or any other items of value, please contact [Dave Morse Project Healing Waters](#), to arrange pick-up or donation in before the Gala. Thank you.



Video of the Month

Editors Note: We all love fishing and outdoor videos. In fact, an accounting of total

Flypaper "clicks" (the number of times someone "clicks on" a link) each month reveals that the number for videos exceeds by far the number of clicks we get for volunteering or for other new events. So, we are going to begin including a fishing video each month. Please help develop this resource by sending me, [Bob Green](#) your favorites. It can be something you saw online and would like to share or a video you made yourself. Let's do it!

The video of the month for April is by Todd Moen: Montana PMD Hatch. It was made in (obviously) Montana and features a remarkable hatch and some hungry trout. Enjoy!



April Youth Outreach Notes



Dennis Cook, Youth Outreach Coordinator

Upcoming Youth Volunteer Opportunities

Day Camp Fly Fishing and River Conservation (8th annual event)

July 31st - August 5th (Monday through Saturday)

Activities: [View Preliminary Schedule](#)

Time: Variable, dependent upon what you volunteer to do

May be as brief as 2 hours, or longer if multiple activities or days

Class: Fifteen ages 14-17 young men & women

Location: Poudre & Big 'T', RMNP, Fort Collins/Loveland meeting rooms

Volunteers: Need 25-35 depending upon what each wants to do

Sign up online: <http://www.rockymtnflycasters.org/proj/youth/campvolunteers.php>

Contact: [Dennis Cook, Youth Coordinator](#) for details and to volunteer

CSU Environmental Center

July 19th (Wednesday)

July 26th (Wednesday)

Activity: Ramble On The River

- Insect collection on the Poudre

- Fly Tying - Buzzer/Streamer on a safety pin

Time: 8:00am - 4:00pm (Incl. set up & tear down)

Class: Four 75 minute sessions with ten ages 12-14 youths

Location (approximate): Junction of Drake & Ziegler

Volunteers: Need 6-8 total each day

Contact: [Dennis Cook](#) for details and to volunteer

New Youth Opportunities

We also have two new outreach opportunities to promote our Day Camps and we need volunteers for our continuing Children's Water Festivals coordinated by Jerry Pellis.

1. Feature Video

We have received an offer of technical assistance to produce a video promoting our annual River Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Day Camp. If we provide video clips, photographs and script copy, a private source has offered to provide complimentary video production.

We are seeking a team of member volunteers to assist at this summer's Day Camp in three areas:

Scripting: Plan a video scenario & script outline featuring our camp's mission and activities

Videographers: Take video footage of selected activities and individuals

Photographers: Take photographs of selected activities and individuals

Interviewers: Recording selected campers and/or parents to emphasize scripted points

Team members will all need to have some experience and the team could involve between four to eight members depending upon experience and skills mix, and some team members may fulfill more than one skill.

2. Camp Photography & Video Website

We want to provide a web-based photo-video site that can be accessed by campers and their families. The site would feature many photos and videos from our Day Camp in an album organized by date, activity and significant highlights. Photos and video would be provided from the camp staff and materials selected from the Feature Video Team.

We are seeking a member volunteer or two who are experienced setting up and working with web-based photographic sites to set up a site, crop & tweak photos and upload photos and videos of this year's camp, and possibly also some from previous recent camps.



Interested Volunteers

Preparation of both projects needs to begin soon in order to be ready before our Day Camp that runs July 31st through August 5th.

All interested members please contact **Dennis Cook, Youth Coordinator** or phone (970) 372-9229.

3. Children's Water Festivals

While Spring's softening weather directs our thoughts toward fishing opportunities, school children's thoughts begin to drift toward warm summer days and NO SCHOOL! However, before the long awaited exodus occurs and the busy carefree days of summer arrive, many students will have the opportunity to attend a Children's Water Festival sponsored by their respective city and other water conservation groups.

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Wil Huett and Domingo Rodriquez supervise fly tying among children

students will have the opportunity to attend a Children's Water Festival sponsored by their respective city and other water conservation groups.

Rocky Mountain Fly Casters will again seize this opportunity to present our Children's Water Festival program, "Who Eats Who at the Stream". This program is presented in a classroom environment as an interactive skit which involves all students in each class for a brief but chaotic 20 minute session repeated up to seven times on each day. The skit gives students a hands-on, brains-on experience to help them learn about the interrelationships and interdependency of creatures in a cold water environment. Each student is designated as either an aquatic insect, or a trout, or a predator (including a fly fisher). They quickly figure out "Who Eats Who" but through various scenarios, have a fun time learning how these species interact, are dependent on each other, and especially dependent on cold, clean water. Each sessions concludes with a brief "quiz" to recap what the students have learned and what they can do to conserve the water in our streams and rivers and help to keep it cold and clean.



Dennis Cook talks about Colorado sport fish.

RMF volunteers who have participated in previous years will attest that the Children's Water Festival experience is a fun, rewarding time as well as a unique opportunity to plant a few conservation seeds in the minds of young people who will soon take over our stewardship.

Please consider joining us this year. Our goal is to have five volunteers at each event. The schedule is as follows:

- Greeley April 26 4th graders
- Loveland May 4 5th graders
- Ft. Collins May 17 3rd graders

The hours are 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM at all locations.

To sign up or for further information please contact [Jerry Pelis](#).





Tell us your favorite 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.



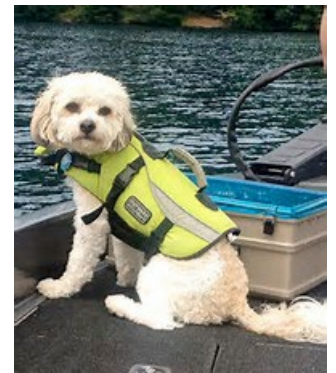
Lose a wading staff?

Call 812-528-2952. The staff was found last fall near Indian Meadows fall while fishing the Poudre.



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 club (RMF) is including on our roster. Thanks, Chuck Christopher.



Or, would you like to be the RMF Treasurer or Secretary?

Tom Culbertson, our current treasurer, has agreed to serve until we can recruit someone to take his place. The treasurer job requires some fundamental accounting skills. If you are a practicing accountant or a CPA, this will be an excellent place for you to make a contribution. 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). Secretarial applicants can contact **Coy Wiley**.



Let's Go Fishing



Mark Miller, Let's Go Fishing Coordinator

Please see our line-up of fishing destinations for 2017 below. Hopefully these trips will appeal to a lot of you!

I'm always open to suggestions if anyone has a special fishing hole they would like to share this coming summer. If you do, please give me a call and I can help you make it happen. Please note that we still need a host for the Delaney Buttes trip in May. Anyone who has been there once before could act as host, mainly to ensure we don't get lost on the way there. If you haven't fished the "Buttes" before, it is a rewarding experience fishing 3 rather small lakes from a float tube or pontoon in the wilds of northwest Colorado, with camping right along the lake shore (at no charge).

Please call Mark Miller if you can offer to host this trip. Thanks much!

Here is our RMF 2017 line - up:

March 31- Apr 2- Gray Reef - Host: Ben Zomer (wade trip) Trip is full.

May 20-21- Delaney Buttes - Host needed.

June 24 - Lake Agnes and Joe Wright Reservoir - Host: Dave Morse

July 15 - Upper Poudre River - Host: Cameren Shinabery

Aug 26 - RMNP Small Stream - Dry Fly Fishing - Hosts: Mark Miller and Bill Gillett

Sept 15-17 - Yampa River - Host: Dennis Cook

Late Sep- Frying Pan - Dates to be determined - Host: Ben Zomer

Oct 7 - Poudre River - Host: Mark Miller

Oct 21 or 28 - Possible Kokanee Trip - S. Platte / Dream Stream - Host: Mark Miller (weather dependent)

Questions? Contact: **Mark Miller** or 970-744-8229 (cell).



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