

# Fly Paper

A publication of Rocky Mountain Flycasters affiliated with Trout Unlimited, the Federation of Fly Fishers

Volume 12

March, 1997

## Back Cast

The 12 February general meeting was highlighted by Chris Schrantz's fly tying. Dan Turner, the President of Eastern Rocky Mountain Federation of Fly Fishers was also present to answer questions about our new FFF affiliation and provide forms for FFF membership. Bob Smith of Great Rocky Mountain Outfitters of Saragota, WY gave a slide presentation on the North Platte and Encampment fishing from the Colorado border, through Saratoga and on the Pathfinder Reservoir. The description of fishing, flies, seasonal variations, and great scenery were well received.

The raffle for the meeting included the following items:

From St. Peter's Fly Shop- Sage Shirt, Bristle-TacFlyPatch, Bone fish fly assortment, Flyline S/A, Metz Saddle, Simms wader belt, Hat, Fly tyer's nymph manual, Leader wallet.  
From Rocky Mountain Fly Shop - Lazerline  
From Outback Steakhouse - Gift certificate  
From Ed Rolka - Flybox and flies  
From Bill Connaughton - 6 Flies  
Tom Post - Flyfishing books  
From Dan Turner - Line minder  
From FMFC - Line dressing, FishCreek rod  
From Greg Sheets - 4 Golden Stoneflies  
From Garreton's - Blair Lamp, 2 Hats, Simms hand warmer  
Great Rocky Mountain Outfitters - Hat, T-shirt

Ken Eis

## President's Beat

Where has February gone? Not to worry, the longest/shortest month will be next year and hopefully once again I will be thankful for its departure. Thankful that is for the great participation at our monthly meetings and also thankful for the fabulous turnout at our Annual Banquet and Fundraising Auction.

Yes! Thanks to all who attended our banquet on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February. It was a huge success and we are already

working on next year's event and have every hope that it will be even better. Everyone I talked to had a wonderful time and some folks went home with a little something as a reminder of the evening. The people at the Holiday Inn did a great job with the food and beverage service as well as logistical support. A big thank you to Chris Lee and her staff!

A special thanks to Jeff Stone, Ken Eis, Jim Shook, Ron Sheets, Greg Sheets, Richard Jones, Brian Shipley, Les Smith, Barry Feldman, Chris Schrantz and to our speaker for the evening Mr. Marty Cecil of Elkrout Lodge. If I have missed thanking anyone, I apologize and please believe your support is appreciated!

A very special thanks to our chapter's Past Presidents who continue to support us and help when crunch time hits! Thank you - Rick Bauer, Bruce Biggi, and Jim Ferguson !!!

I am looking forward to next month and all the activities to come. I hope to see continued participation from our membership as well as an seeing many more of our members becoming a part of both Trout Unlimited and The Federation of Flyfishers.

We look forward to having some projects for our club to work on in this year and next. Bruce Biggi and Brian Shipley are working with the Division of Wildlife and the Forest Service and Brad Bischoff with the Nature Conservancy to that end.

Our chapter will be donating flyfishing books to our local libraries this year, so if you have any you would like to help us out with please contact myself or any other board member. We also are looking into to the possibility of holding an FFF conclave in the area in the future, so any comment or feedback to that end would be appreciated.

Till next time, keep the felt side down!

Tom Post

## Forward Cast

Our next general membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 12 at the University Park Holiday Inn starting at 6:30 PM with a fly tying demonstration/social hour. The program will begin at 7:30 PM. Remember, our meetings are always on the second Wednesday of the month – September through May and are always at the University Park Holiday Inn.

Our guest this month will be Mr. Ed Rolka. Ed, a longtime Colorado resident and native of Pennsylvania will be speaking to us about fishing the waters of his home state, Pennsylvania. As many of you know, this area of the country was and still is a hot bed of fly fishing and many of our modern ideas and concepts about the sport originated there. Ed was a part of that during the 50's just as he was starting his commercial fly tying operation. Which brings us to Ed's part in Colorado fly fishing history – The Breadcrust. Ed brought the fly with him when he moved to Colorado and has become regionally famous as a commercial tier of it since. He was, for many years, the *only commercial source* for a well tied Breadcrust!

Please join us as Ed will be doing the fly tying demo as well as the program !!!

Jeff Stone

## Banquet Thank You's!

I want to this opportunity to thank all of you who helped make our 1997 Annual Banquet and Fundraising Auction a rousing success!!!

To all who attended - THANK YOU!

To those who sold tickets – Rocky Mountain Fly Shop, St. Peter's Fly Shop, Bob's Fly Tying Specialties, Garretson's Sport Center, Bruce Biggi, Brad Bischoff, Ken Callaway, Frank Pierz, Pete Salg and our banquet committee – THANK YOU!

To those who helped at the event – Bruce Biggi, Ken Eis, Jim Ferguson, Richard Jones, Tom Post, Greg Sheets, Chris Schrantz, Ron Sheets, John Tencick and Jim Shook.  
THANK YOU!

To the ladies who helped with the Verbal Auction – Melinda Kerst, Patti Schuman, and Greg Sheet's wife (I apologize!!!) – THANK YOU!

To our speaker – Mr. Marty Cecil of Elktrout Lodge – THANK YOU!

Jeff Stone – Banquet Chair

## Update on the North Fork

First, my appologies for misspelling Brad Bischoff's name in the last newsletter. Well Brad got the full \$19,000 to have Prof Ellen Wohl conduct the silt study in Phantom Canyon. The information that will be collected will serve to defend our cold water resources in the future. Ken Eis

The following articles are from the FFF CLUBWIRE. The authors are unknown.

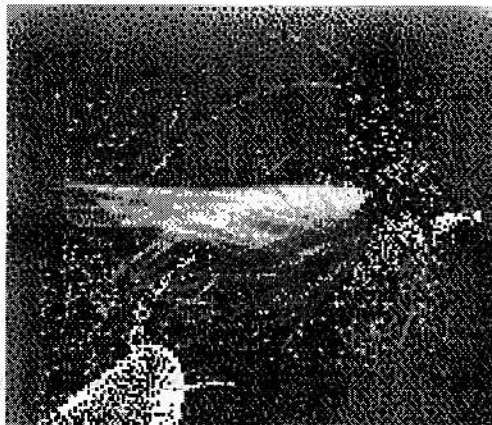
### ROCKY RIVER CLOUSER MINNOW\*

The Rocky is loaded with Northern Creek Chubs throughout the year and provide forage for a number of predator fish. They have a light olive back, a dark lateral line, and a cream colored underside. They grow to about four inches. Usually I'm looking for

steelhead or smallmouth bass and the fly that has brought me the most success in catching these species is a Clouser Minnow style fly tied with a few variations. The streamer hook is covered with a pearl colored flat tinsel and I use maribou rather than bucktail. When wet, the pearl tinsel catches the light and appears like fish scales. The maribou has more action in the water than bucktail. You can fish this streamer from a dead drift to fairly fast stripping as long as it rides the bottom; especially with steelhead. The Rocky's bed is made up of slabs of shale, tilted as to catch a fly, tippet or leader as they drift by. Standing in the stream and using a sink tip line' cast down and toward a bank. Mend the line into the current and let the fly swing out from the shore. Begin to strip in one inch strips toward you. Hold after every few strips and let the fly swing from side to side in the current. When stripping past large rocks, drop the tip and let the fly back down in front of the pocket. If you get caught up, let out line to form a downstream bow. A sharp pull usually will back your fly out of trouble.

### MATERIALS

Hook: Streamer, long shank, sized 8 to 4 Thread: Black Body: Pearl tinsel tied over white floss Top or wing: Olive maribou



Bottom: White maribou  
 Lateral line: Black crystal flash  
 Weight: Lead eyes, usually painted black with red, red pupils.  
 TYING INSTRUCTIONS: After tying on the lead eyes Clouser style, tie in tinsel and floss at the bend of hook. Move thread to a position behind the eyes. Wrap floss forward and tie off. Do same with tinsel. Tie in small clump of maribou (little longer than hoof in front of eyes and take a wrap behind the eyes as well. Turn hook over and tie in few strands of crystal flash. Tie in olive maribou (longer than the white maribou) in front of eyes and form a neat head.

**FLY FISHING IN THE COLD CAN BE DEADLY** (FFF ClubWire). Perhaps there is nothing more solitary or special than getting out to fly fish on a winter day, whether it is a Midwestern spring creek, a wild western steelhead river or mid-south tailwater. But there is a danger in this activity that you must think about, even before it happens. That peril is hypothermia and it is **THE NUMBER ONE KILLER OF OUTDOOR RECREATIONALISTS.**

Basically if your body cools off too much (just 3-4 degrees from the normal 98.6), it will start a sequence of events that can easily be fatal. The fundamental "Catch 22" with hypothermia is as follows. If your core body temperature goes too low, brain function becomes impaired and then as a result you will lose the ability to take proper corrective actions. This is especially serious if you alone and some distance away from shelter or a source of external heat. For example, if due to hypothermia-related confusion you take the wrong trail, or try to get back by crossing the river at a dangerous spot or simply get more lost, your situation may have a very bad end. Before your next winter outing consider learning about (1) proper actions to avoid hypothermia, (2) the early critical signs and (3) what actions to take immediately when those signs are experienced. Here is a short course on those three topics that may save your life.



**Actions to avoid hypothermia:** Dress for warmth, dryness and wind protection. Carry windproof and waterproof outerwear protection. Stay dry by putting on raingear before getting wet. Wet clothes lose 90% of their insulating value and the wind can make the cooling off much worse. Pack energy snacks, with sugar for quick conversion to energy and other nutrients for a longer-lasting effect. Keep active to generate heat. Remember, hypothermia can happen at 30-40 degrees. It does not have to be frigid.

**GET THAT FLY LINE READY!** (FFF ClubWire.). From the newsletter of the Fort Worth Texas Fly Fishers, by Al Crise, The Rod and Reel Doctor Its time to clean your fly lines. If you have one of those new type lines, the care is easy. (1) Remove the line from the reel and cut off the nail knot. Yes, the nail knot. (2) place the line in a plastic pail or tub to which you add a couple drops of liquid soap (Ivory works good). Fill to half full. (3) Agitate gently for a few minutes (Hum Dixie four times). (4) Pour out soapy water, add fresh water and rinse (for three choruses). (5) Dry by hanging on drying spool or in a net bag but do not tangle. Let the line air dry. (6) when dry, apply a good line dressing per manufacturers instructions. (7) Retie the nail knot to the line/backing and wind the line back on the reel. This is a good place to store the fly line. (8) Now take the reel and the rod to the closest fishing hole and make sure it works. Enjoy it even more and take someone fly fishing.

And in these Winter months remember--

*"The charm of fishing is that it is the pursuit of what is elusive but obtainable, a perpetual series of occasions for hope." —John Buchan*

Please send me your e-mail address to me at [eis@cira.colostate.edu](mailto:eis@cira.colostate.edu) if you are interested in receiving this newsletter and other information via e-mail. It is very difficult to get the newsletter to our members in Greeley on time via bulk rate mail. We mailed your newsletters 12 days before the meeting and it still wasn't time enough via "snail mail". The Board is thinking about getting the Chapter its own Web home page to allow everyone to get the newsletter with graphics. Please let us know your opinion on this matter. - Ken Eis

## Calendar of Events

**General Meetings** Wednesday Mar 12<sup>th</sup>  
April 9<sup>th</sup>, and May 14

**Board Meetings** Mar 17, April 14, and  
May 19

General Meetings are always at the University Park Holiday Inn at 6:30 PM the second Wednesday of the month. Board Meetings are held at the County Cork at 7:30PM on the Monday following the general meeting. The Board meeting is open to all members. If you have any suggestions for the next newsletter please contact Ken Eis.

## Rocky Mountain Flycasters Board of Directors.

### Officers:

Tom Post, President.....stpeters@flyshop.com.....221-9478  
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Planning:

Needs Volunteer

Public Affairs:

Needs Volunteer

Social Activities:

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