



# The Flypaper

## January 2013 Edition

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**Sustaining Donor**

Dear Members,

It is most definitely that time of year!! It's that time when fly fishing books, tying journals, tying vises and equipment repair, cleaning and maintenance are all best accompanied by a warm fireplace and the appropriate beverage. Snowflakes are flitting through the air, I am debating about whether it's worth going out today and yet I find myself thinking that there is probably a little midge activity as the sun darts in and out of the clouds. This fly fishing hobby sure does get you thinking about some crazy things every now and then. Hmmm...

We have got a great 2013 planned for RMF. Be sure to catch the program schedule below in the news. There are some fantastic programs coming up over the next few months. Next Wednesday you are all in for a treat through a photo excursion extraordinaire. Next month is the annual Fly Tying Expo. We are always excited about being able to present such high caliber of artisans to our fly fishing community. The skills these tiers share with us are remarkable. Don't miss the opportunity to appreciate the talents they will present on the 20th of February. I would also remind everyone that the Tying Expo is our chapter's primary fund raising event of the year. We know you share our conviction of the need to conserve our fisheries and watersheds. Protecting this resource so that future generations may enjoy the same opportunities that we do, is really the heart of TU mission. Your financial support at the local level is key to our ability to continue with the great things we have done, and the even greater things that we will achieve together in the future. Your support of RMF at next month's Fly Tying Expo will be greatly appreciated.

.....now let me see if I can remember where I put my poly liners.



Please consider becoming a [Sustaining Donor](#) at a level that you can afford. Special Recognition occurs at the \$50 level.

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Off for a few midge casts,

[Dick Jefferies](#), President  
Rocky Mountain Flycasters

"They say you forget your troubles on a trout stream, but that's not quite it. What happens is that you begin to see where your troubles fit into the grand scheme of things, and suddenly they're just not such a big deal anymore."

John Gierach

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## **PROGRAMS**

[Program Director](#)

### **January Program**

**Please join us this coming Wednesday for a truly special evening with Mark Lance!**

January 16th, Fort Collins Senior Center, 6:30pm  
1200 Raintree Drive, 80526

[Senior Center Map](#)

Mark has been fly fishing for over 40 years and wielding a camera for nearly as long. Beyond his 9-to-5 job as global marketing manager for a high tech software company, he is a freelance photographer and outdoor writer. He is the Rocky Mountain Field Editor for Southwest Fly Fishing Magazine. Mark is on the pro staff for Scott Fly Rods, Hatch Reels, and Hyde Drift Boats. He is a long time member, and former board member of the Cutthroat Chapter of Trout Unlimited in Centennial, Colorado.

He shoots for outdoor manufactures and outfitters including Patagonia, Scott Fly Rods, Hyde Drift Boats, Hatch Reels, Brunton, ExOfficio, Rio Azul Lodge, The Best of Kamchatka, and Yellow Dog Outfitters. His fly fishing photography is frequently featured in Southwest Fly Fishing, Grays Sporting Journal, Fly Rod & Reel, Trout Magazine, American Angler and Saltwater Fly Fisherman, The Contemporary Sportsman, and Outside Magazine. A sample of Mark's photography can be viewed on his website at: [riverlightimages.com](http://riverlightimages.com)

On Wednesday Mark will present - **Tango Trout**

The rivers flowing from Argentina's Andean Cordillera offer a wide variety of fly fishing opportunities. Some liken the fly fishing experience to western Montana 50 years ago. The semi-arid landscape of the Argentine steppe and brawling freestone rivers do remind one of the Rocky Mountain west. However, the magnificent Andes as a backdrop and unfamiliar names like Rio Chimehuin, Rio Collon Cura, and Rio Limay take us to a

fly fishing paradise at 40 degrees south latitude in a land of late night asados, deep red Malbec wines and the Tango. Through Mark's compelling photography you will experience the quest for rainbow and brown trout across sprawling estancias and wilderness waters in Argentina's Neuquen and Rio Negro provinces.

**Don't miss this very special evening with one of fly fishing's finest artists. The world of fly fishing as seen through the lense of Mark Lance is a truly special world indeed!!**

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## Coming Attractions

### **Fly Tying Expo - February 20th**

Save the date now for the expo! Featuring 20 tiers at their tables, food and drink, raffles throughout the 3evening, silent auction. As always, an outstanding evening!!

### **Steve Schweitzer - March 20th**

If you liked *A Fly Fishing Guide to Rocky Mountain National Park*, wait till you see what he has done with Indian Peaks Wilderness Area. Don't miss it!

### **Todd Hosman - April 17th**

Fishing Guide and author. His *Fly Fishing Colorado's Front Range Angler's Guide* should be in everyone's fishing vehicle.

### **Steve Henderson - May 15th**

Owner of Henderson Fly Fishing, Steve will share insights about fishing the Yampa Valley and it's truly spectacular waters.

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## AWARDS PROGRAM

### **RMF AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE, ACHIEVEMENT & DISTINCTION**

#### **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

Nominations for an award category can be submitted by any member of Rocky Mountain Flycasters.

Your RMF Board is opening the window for nominations for Awards to recognize member volunteers and chapter partners achievements. Recognition will be announced to chapter members and communicated prominently across our NoCO host community.

The objective is to encourage members' good ideas and export that enthusiasm throughout the chapter, and also to recognize deserving community partner organizations or their representatives that contribute extraordinary support helping RMF accomplish its Mission objectives. Awards will be announced at RMF's May membership Annual Meeting, and awardees may also be nominated to Colorado TU for statewide recognition award consideration at its Spring Rendezvous in April.

Award winners will be selected from among nominees by an annually appointed Awards Committee. It is not required that every category be awarded every year, and there sometimes may be multiple awardees in a single category.

**Nominations for awards, with supportive information, may be submitted after January 1 and must be received by January 31 by email to the RMF Secretary at [secretary@rockymtnflycasters.org](mailto:secretary@rockymtnflycasters.org).**

### **RMF MEMBER AWARDS**

- Exemplary Chapter Function, Project or Activity Leadership Award
- Exemplary Youth Education Award
- Exemplary Youth Member Award
- Exemplary Conservation Volunteer Award
- Outstanding Chapter Volunteer Award

### **NoCO OUTREACH AWARDS**

- Exemplary NoCO Guide/Outfitter Award

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## **ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS**

### **Let's Go Fishing**

[Dennis Cook](#) , Coordinator

It won't be long before the ice begins to come off on the lower stretches of many rivers, and most of us will have already been champing at the bit to be on the water. It's not too soon to sign up and be sure you make it for some (or all) of the chapter's planned trips. Several of the trips already have multiple reservations made.

March 22-24	- Green River "A Section"	Host: Guy Turenne
April 13	- RMNP "Meadow Streams"	Host: Dennis Cook
May 24-25-26	- South Platte "Dream Stream" and "11-Mile Canyon"	Host: Dennis Cook
June 8-9	- Delaney Buttes Lake	Host: Frank Cada
June 30	- Gore Canyon "Salmonfly Hatch"	Host: Adam Omernick
July 13	- RMNP Colorado River Headwaters	Host: Dennis Cook
August 17	- Poudre Upper Canyon	Host: Dennis Cook
September 7	- RMNP "Dream Lake"	Host: Dennis Cook
October 19	- Colorado River "Main Stem"	Host: Dennis Cook
November 9	- Big Thompson Canyon	Host: Dennis Cook

Sign up for trips by email with Coordinator Dennis Cook at [rkymtnangler@Q.com](mailto:rkymtnangler@Q.com) or by phone at 970-372-9229 (cell).

Members are invited to "host" a trip to some interesting spot. Hosting is not guiding, but rather is sharing your knowledge and site research as an angling companion. New trips as they are confirmed will be announced in each Flypaper issue and on the RMF website.

Non-member guests are also welcome.



Great smiles! What better way to enjoy this great pastime than with friends

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## **CONSERVATION NEWS**

[Dave Piske](#), Conservation Chair

### **Volunteer Coordinator Needed**

One (or two) person(s) are needed to work with the Fort Collins Natural Areas Department staff to plan, coordinate, and implement our chapter's Adopt-a-Trail activities at Gateway. The normal program consists of two work days per year, with each workday consisting of three or four hours of moderate physical efforts doing maintenance and/or reconstruction of segments of two foot trails within the Gateway Natural Area. The on-site work will be supervised by professional employees of the City of Fort Collins.

The role of the RMF Volunteer Coordinator is to attend one or two planning meetings, conduct the subsequent recruitment of volunteers to perform the planned work, and arrange for refreshments, usually in the form of a picnic lunch for the volunteers at the end of the work session.

Past volunteer coordinators have enjoyed a convivial relationship with enthusiastic staff of Fort Collins Natural Areas, producing a satisfying realization of the team's accomplishments plus expanded fellowships with the team members.

Interested in becoming a Volunteer Coordinator? Contact: [conservation@rockymtnflycaster.org](mailto:conservation@rockymtnflycaster.org)

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## High Park Fire Ecological Restoration Activities

During the summer of 2012 the High Park wildfire severely burned thousands of acres within the Poudre River watershed. Included in the resultant damages were the Poudre River's treasured trout fishery and a substantial portion of our drinking water supply. In these severely burned areas, dense groves of lush green conifer trees became bare, black, dead stalks. The duff layer on the forest floor and its hidden storehouse of seeds awaiting germination as another generation of trees and shrubs, all became a layer of powdered charcoal, ready for the next rainstorm to transport it into the Poudre. And the underground root systems of grasses and forbs that formerly absorbed and slowed the downhill flow of rain and snowmelt became an inert part of the hard-baked soil. The overall result was a threatened ecological disaster that would be unleashed by rainfall or snowmelt, whichever came first.

RMF TU and a number of other concerned conservation-oriented organizations recognized the threat and initiated action. The "boots on the ground" activities were lead by Wildlands Restoration Volunteers (WRV). They mobilized a coalition of volunteers to forestall the anticipated disaster to the extent feasible in the short interval before snowfall would temporarily defer projects until Spring of 2013. During 2012 these volunteers participated in 18 ecological restoration projects that were accomplished during the final three months of the year. Preparatory to those projects, crew leader training sessions were conducted in September by Wildlands Restoration Volunteers.

Much work remains to be done in 2013 to further avert the threats of severe ecological damage in the Poudre watershed. The 2013 schedule of crew leader training days and on-site ecological restoration projects is being formulated now. Three days of crew leader training in ecological restoration skills are tentatively scheduled for March 9, April 6, and April 20, all of these being Saturdays. Each one-day class will include both classroom orientations and on-site practices. Projects will begin again as soon as the severely burned areas are accessible.

Here is why more RMF volunteers are especially needed to be trained and perform as crew leaders. WRV has lists of candidate volunteer workers in the range of 1,000 to 1,500 names. These people come from all walks of life. They include CSU clubs and individual students, Fort Collins & Loveland community service groups, college alumni associations, educators, and the general populace. The work they will perform is not difficult, but it must be performed using proven methods and utilizing skills that are critical to accomplishing the needed results. Most of the volunteer workers do not innately have that knowledge or those skills. But, given guidance by trained crew leaders, they are able to learn on-the-project. And fundamental to overall success, there must be trained crew leaders in numbers substantial enough to support all the needed volunteers.

Fortunately, the usual outdoors skills of RMF TU members are all it takes to be ready to learn crew leader skills and then train volunteer workers in the ecological restoration techniques they need to utilize. The range of restoration skills includes seeding, planting and mulching of grasses, forbs, small trees and shrubs; and placement of erosion control structures and devices such as straw wattles, erosion mats, and log and rock barriers to control water runoff.

Mark your calendars now to hold open at least one of those crew leader training dates. When the schedule becomes firm, it will be announced on the RMF web site and in the next newsletter. Let's all join in to fill a big bunch of the trainee slots, and show everyone that folks from RMF TU are leaders in restoring the Poudre watershed.

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## **YOUTH NEWS**

[Dennis Cook](#), Youth Outreach Chair

### **Trout In Classroom (TIC)**

In collaboration with Colorado TU, RMF has opened a new TIC program in the Wildlife, Forestry & Natural Resources Division at the Larimer Campus of FRCC in Fort Collins. Thirty students from nine Fort Collins, Loveland and Berthoud high schools participate in a two-year, dual college-high school credits program requiring two-hours/day Monday through Friday for 30 weeks. Instructor Heather Dannahower explains that Trout in the Classroom will be implemented as part of the fish biology curriculum and will include both individual studies and honors projects. Additionally, a separate college level Fish Management course will also benefit from this TIC partnership.

The Wildlife, Forestry & Natural Resources Program is designed for students interested in learning the fundamentals of wildlife, water resources & forestry management and outdoor recreation. Students explore soil, water quality and management principles required to make conscientious land-use decisions, and participate in a technician skills unit. Classroom knowledge is applied through a research site and field labs near Horsetooth Reservoir and on U.S. Forest Service land near Red Feather Lakes. Students conduct a research project by collecting field data and writing a scientific paper.

The aquarium system was set up over the holidays and passed an inspection by the Colorado Parks & Wildlife Pathology Department, and an order has been placed for delivery of eyed eggs possibly next week. The tank will be completely shrouded for darkness and the eggs hatch in about twelve days as sac fry that immediately hide under the tanks gravel substrate. About two-weeks later they emerge and are soon ready to begin eating. At this point students must maintain safe levels of acidity, ammonia, nitrites and nitrates that develop from fish solid wastes and uneaten food particles, and also avoid stressing the growing fish which lowers their immune system and can result in sickness and deaths. It's a delicate balancing challenge with many educational elements for the students to learn, and hopefully many of the fish will survive. Those that do will have a sample group undergo dissection for pathogen testing by the CPW Pathology Department to establish their health before they can be released into local waters at a location approved by CPW. Future FlyPaper newsletter issues will keep you informed.



Sharon Lance (CTU TIC Lead), Heather Dannahower (FRCC Instructor), Hannah Anderson (FRCC Student Intern), Peter Walker (CPW Chief Pathologist) & Jake Lemon (CTU Youth Coordinator) discuss Trout in the Classroom activities.

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## Give Us Your Best Shot

We're looking for pictures germane to fly fishing, rivers, lakes, and watershed conservation, volunteers doing that work, fly tying, sharing fishing with youngsters and others, so the options are varied. It would be nice if many of them were local to RMF members, but some destinations will be considered. Having permission to publish on our website will be implicit for submitted photos so make certain you have permission from anyone in your pictures.

Photographers will be acknowledged in a caption with the picture so rush those pictures in.

Send your pictures to [Webmaster](#)

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## Rocky Mountain Flycaster Sustaining Donors



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This newsletter was prepared by [djefferies@g.com](mailto:djefferies@g.com)

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