

The Flypaper

Renew Membership

From the President
Holiday Party!
Bob Green, Editor

Sign Up to Volunteer

Dennis Cook,
Leadership Development
Wil Huett,
Community Outreach

Join the Flycasters

Thomas Wurster's
Fishing Forecast
Let's Go Fishing!

Donate and/or Buy
Sustaining Donors

From the President

December 2019

I am hoping that you all had nice Thanksgiving celebrations, whether with friends, family or simply chilling for the day. Although we seem to be having early and often snow storms, we will be quite busy in this month of December! First, however, we will not have a general Chapter Membership meeting this month. Instead, we will have our annual Holiday Party (see below).

Our social fly tying event will be held, as usual on the first Wednesday of the month. Termed "Pub and Dub", we will gather at the Gilded Goat in Fort Collins 6:00 PM, December 4th to tie flies. Whether you have never tied flies before, just beginning or someone with experience, you are welcome. If nothing else, it's a nice place to have a beverage and swap stories of your past fishing exploits. See the article later in this newsletter.

Our second event of the month is the annual Holiday Party, organized by past president Lee Evans. This year, as in past, we will be meeting at C.B. Potts on East Horsetooth in Fort Collins. There will be a cash bar and the price of admission will get you heavy hors d'oeuvres. In addition, we will raffle off a fly rod and two trees full of flies. Please bring a half dozen flies to add to the trees. Also, we will have a fun white elephant gift exchange so please bring one gift per couple/family to add to the gift table. This is typically a family event so register online for the cost of \$15/person in advance or \$20 at the door. <https://rockymtnflycasters.org/forms/holiday.php>

With this time of year comes opportunities to share your treasures. Please see an article below for two important opportunities. As a conservation organizations, we all depend on contributions to support our mission. Whether you donate to one of the



Mickey McGuire, RMF President



two watershed coalitions who are our close partners or to Colorado Trout Unlimited who provides a lot of support to Rocky Mountain Flycasters be assured your donations will be well used.

Finally, I want to wish each of you a merry and happy holiday season. As part of the TU family, know that we all share similar conservation goals and enjoy the comradery of fishing buddies. As our chapter has evolved over the past 35+ years from a fishing club to an important conservation organization in Northern Colorado with numerous accomplishments, you should all be proud to belong to the Chapter. The two watersheds we support have been through some tumultuous ecological challenges over the past 7 years but through the work of RMF and our partners, they are starting to recover. A big hearty **THANKS** to all who have participated in these endeavors! Until next month,

Mickey McGuire
President

December Membership Meeting: Holiday Party!



2019 Rocky Mountain Flycasters' Holiday Party

The season will be here again, sooner than we think. Rocky Mountain Flycasters is holding a Holiday Party. Please make plans to attend in Friday, December 13, 2019 at C.B. & Potts' Collindale, at 1441 East Horsetooth Road. We will start socializing at 6:30, eat from 7:00 to 8:00, then have the infamous White Elephant Gift Exchange, raffle drawings for the two fly trees and a brand new fly rod.

Cost this year will be \$15.00 per person for tickets purchased online (below). Tickets at the door will be \$20 per person. Everyone will get heavy hors d'œuvres from the C.B. & Potts kitchen and raffle tickets. If you wish to participate in the White Elephant exchange, bring a wrapped white elephant gift. Because of our larger attendance, please bring only one gift per couple. We always have a great time at these parties, and it is especially good to meet and socialize with our significant others.

We ask that you bring a few flies and divide them between the two trees as we will raffle two trees again this year. We had a great turnout of flies last year as well as a huge pile of White Elephant gifts.

In order to better predict the amount of food to order, we ask that you order your tickets here via PayPal. We'll try to keep the online ticket sales open as long as possible but we will need to cut them off some days before the 14th. We really hope you all can attend!

Online sales end Tuesday, 10 December, 2019, a few days before the December Party!
After that, tickets will be more at the door.

Other Events In December



Board Meeting

When: Wednesday, December 11
Time: 6:00 PM
Where: The Group's Office Bldg. on East Harmony



Social Fly Tying Event

When: Wednesday, December 4, 2019
(Save future dates: First Wednesday each month)
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.

[Read More](#)



Fly Swap

There will **NOT** be a fly swap at the December Holiday Party.

The next Fly Swap will be at the January General meeting. The theme will be midges (dry, larva or pupa) of your choice. Plan on bringing 8 identical flies unless you hear differently. Any extra flies will be donated to the raffle or returned to you. Please email [Dave Morse](#) to let him know you will participate so we can determine how many flies to tie. As usual, include the recipe with your name on a "toe tag". and bring your flies to the January General RMF meeting. You will receive one fly from each other participant and contribute one for the monthly raffle. We hope that this will be an educational and enjoyable experience this year.

From Bob Green, Flypaper Editor



Hello readers. We recently had an “overhaul” from our newsletter vendor (Constant Contact). You may notice design changes in many areas. I am using this opportunity to describe some of the features of the new version of the newsletter, and to share some recently aggregated *Flypaper* statistics.

New Design

You probably have noticed a new masthead for *The Flypaper*. It’s been at least 6 years since our masthead image has been changed and perhaps more than that. I know it’s not been changed since I became editor. So, let’s look at people, rather than fish, for a while when we first open *The Flypaper*.

We have also revised our “color” platform in this issue and have replaced the blue, red and white dominance with new colors. Nothing wrong with the old colors, just ready to try some new ones. We have also increased the ease with which you may link or toggle back and forth between *The Flypaper* and the website.

If you scroll down to the end of this issue you will find active links to each of the major sections of the [Rocky Mountain Flycasters](#) website. We hope these changes will be useful to you.

Statistics

Notice, also, the new award we received from Constant Contact. The All-Star award means that the open rate, the percentage of those who received the newsletter and opened *The Flypaper*, is among the top ten percent of all Constant Contact accounts! Thanks to all you “openers!”.

In the past year the total number of *Flypaper* subscribers has grown from 1052 in January of 2019 to 1171 for the November issue, a growth of 119 subscribers, or about 10%. The open rate for the year was 38 per cent, although this rate varies from month to month. The open rate was 41 percent for the last edition (November) the highest of the year and 36 percent for the month of August, the lowest. More readers used a computer to open the newsletter (63 percent) than a mobile device (37 per cent) although the mobile device use is growing. Only 9 people ask to unsubscribe for the 12 month period.

Dennis Cook, Leadership Development and Nominations Coordinator



“Welcome Aboard” the Chapter Leadership Team to Jeannie Weaver. Jeannie responded to our September Help Wanted ad for a Raffles Manager, and was introduced at our October meeting by chapter president Mickey McGuire. Thank you, Jeannie, for stepping forward to help make our chapter more effective. Jeannie’s husband, Jay, is also a chapter member and a Life member of Trout Unlimited. Please drop by the raffles table at our next chapter meeting and greet Jeannie.

Running a TU Chapter is much like running a small company or business. One big difference though is that a chapter is managed by volunteers who care about its Mission success. Their ‘paycheck’ comes from the satisfaction of plying their talents, developing friendships with others on the leadership team, and the success’s they know they personally helped make happen. Our chapter is becoming increasingly involved as a cold waters and fishing community resource, and is developing existing and new programs to help support these developments.

Following are several opportunities for interested members to become a part of building our chapter success.

Chair, Community Outreach: After many years our Chairperson, Wil Huett, has announced his retirement and requested that we appoint a successor to become part of the Volunteer Leadership Council. Our RMF Chapter sees itself as a community citizen and enrichment resource, and we need to let citizens and local organizations know more about us. Awareness promotion about our programs, capabilities and services through NoCO print, online channels and social media channels is important, as is building liaisons with organizations and companies that share elements of our conservation mission and outdoors values. This will be an exciting avenue for some member to help advance community awareness and appreciation of our Chapter.

Chair, Youth Outreach: This incredibly important position is one of our most personally rewarding experiences where you as can contribute your time and talent to the chapter. As part of the Volunteer Leadership Council, you will oversee the contributions of several highly committed volunteers who are directly responsible for operating the Youth Day Camp, Trout in the Classroom, Water Festivals, CSU Educational Learning Center, USFS Free Fishing Day, CSU Five Rivers Fly Fishing Club and potentially other new programs.

Coordinator, Trout In The Classroom: If you enjoy interacting with passionate instructors and students at the elementary, junior and high school, TIC Coordinator may be for you. Working with the schools, you will collaborate with teachers to establish tanks owned by RMF and assist them as they set up and manage the rearing of rainbow trout. What a great experience! The majority of this activity occurs during the October through May school academic year.

Contacts: Members interested in any of these opportunities please contact one of the following Leader Development & Nominations Committee members for more information. Discussions will be handled in confidence.

Email Dennis Cook, or phone (970) 372-9229

Email Wil Huett, or phone (970) 222-5336

From Wil Huett, Our Community Outreach Coordinator



Wil Huett, Outreach Coordinator

The Phone on the Wall & Other Interesting Information

I'll keep this short since I know you would rather be out doing your Xmas shopping. By the way, if you are thinking of giving me a gift, I am really hankering for one of the new hi-tech battery powered fly rods. You know, the one that contains a memory chip with the casting stroke taught to it by Lefty Kreh.

Toward a Healthier Yellowstone:

Yellowstone makes substantial progress to recover native cutthroat trout RMF member Paul Bunker is up to his waders in the YNP Volunteer Fly Fishing Program. For more info **email Paul**. RMF and some individual members made an early contribution to Yellowstone Lake recovery by funding some of the radio tags which were used to monitor lake trout movements.

Toward a Healthier Poudre: **In-Situ Partners With Fort Collins And Csu To Monitor Poudre River Water Quality**

Science has always been a part of the TU approach to conservation. With modern technology citizen science has become an ever more important element. Here's a recent article from TU:

Connecting science and conservation

RMF also has a stream monitoring program. If you want to participate contact science guy and temperature monitoring guru **Phil Wright**.

What's that...?....A phone book...?... Nearly a relic of days gone by, one arrived at my house the other day. Must have been delivered by the ghost of Alexander Graham Bell past. That, coupled with visiting the home of a friend recently and noticing a wall jack where a telephone used to hang, brought back memories.

In years past when helping people with their casting stroke I would encourage them to think of answering the phone, the one hanging on the wall. "Pick up the phone, hold it to your ear long enough to say 'wrong number' then hang up. That's the casting stroke."

Doesn't make sense nowadays. A couple of generations have never seen a phone hanging on the wall. They may fall out of hip pockets, get immersed when taking photos of fish (guilty), or reside in the other driver's hand, but they don't hang on walls.

Have a great holiday season.

Thomas Wurster's Fishing Forecast from St. Peters Fly Shop



Happy Holidays! We sure do hope you enjoyed your Thanksgiving with family, food, and fish. December has arrived here on the Front Range and so has the snow, cold temperatures and that nasty wind we saw on Saturday.

As we arrive at the river we will notice some changes too such as crystal clear water, low water levels and colder temperatures both in the water and the air. We can refer to this time of the year as "midge season". Midges are going to be one of the biggest sources of food for trout during the winter when things cool down. Blue Wing Olive Mayflies also will be one of the more

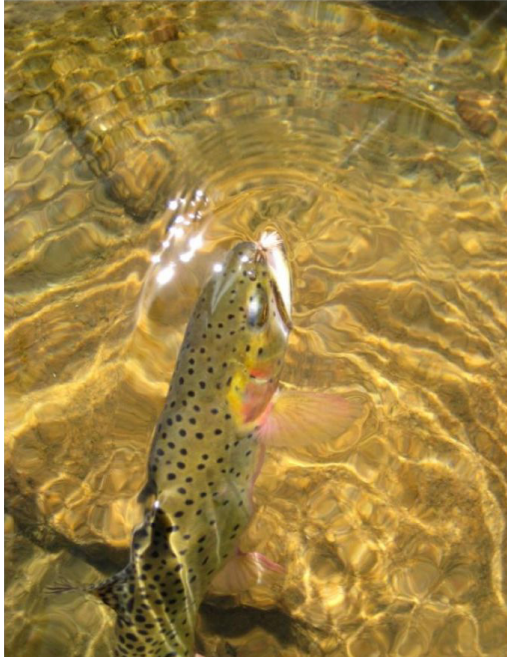
important species of insect to imitate. Both nymphs and dries. Nymphing midges and BWO's will be a really productive way to start the day and given the right amount of sunlight and humidity you can catch some thick midge hatches and plenty of trout feeding off of the surface. Another thing to keep in mind is the fact that our freestone rivers will be freezing up very soon and tailwaters will be the places to find trout hanging out. Some fairly big ones too.

Aside from fishing small BWO Nymphs, this is another place where midges are going to be extremely effective. If we find ourselves stuck inside on cold days tying flies, reading and learning is one of the best ways to stay engaged and occupied with angling. Anytime you purchase a Renzetti Traveler Series vice, we will be giving out a free Intro to Tying Class which can be very useful for the new tier. If you are just getting started we are offering a free Intro to Fly Fishing class with a purchase of a Sage Foundation Combo equipped with the Sage Rod, Sage Spectrum Reel, Rio Gold Fly Line, Backing and Rio Leader. Christmas is right around the corner and if you are stumped for ideas check out the St. Peter's Holiday Gift Guide. Filled with items from socks and gloves all the way to premium rods and reels.

Talking to the staff can also influence some really good ideas so if you think your angler has it all, stop by and ask the folks at the shop. Don't miss some of the Simms apparel sales going on as well as some of the Free tying demos held most Saturdays at St. Pete's South throughout the winter. Watching some of the best tiers in the industry can be very beneficial for those looking for good tying techniques and coffee and doughnuts. Don't forget that sunny days make for very good fishing opportunities despite cool air temperatures. Fishing may seem scarce but there is absolutely some open water out there. We hope you stay warm and moving as this cold winter approaches. Stay updated with the latest river reports and enjoy the short holiday season.

Let's Go Fishing!

Who Would Like to Backpack in RMNP?



As Thanksgiving and the Christmas season roll around, I know it is time for me to start planning our chapter fishing trips for next year. I enjoy this immensely. But there is that age-old problem that I have never been able to solve, summed up by the following saying: "So many waters, so little time."

For the last several years, I have hoped to plan a backpacking trip in RMNP, for a small group of 4-6 crazy trout bums, for some high-country cutthroats. I am researching lakes as I write this article, my main information source being Steve Schweitzer's excellent *Fly Fishing Guide to RMNP*. I am writing this article in hopes that a few of you may be interested, as I am, in donning a 45 pound pack, hiking 6-8 miles, forming blisters on your feet, creating sore and painful shoulders, all for the chance to cast a small dry fly to lightly pressured cutthroats at high altitude. Sounds absolutely wonderful, doesn't it?

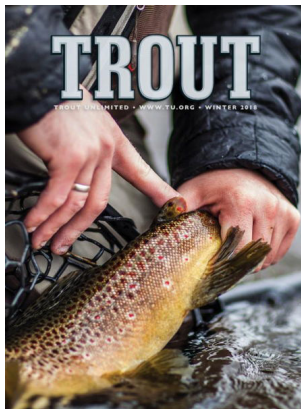
If we pull this trip together, it would likely be in mid to late August, and most likely a 4 day trip (one day hiking in, two days of fishing, and a fourth day to hike out for a cold beer and juicy burger. Then we can tend to those blisters and sore shoulders!

If this sounds like your cup of tea, please [email Mark Miller](#). And Happy Holidays!

Mark Miller
Trip Coordinator

 **DUN** Magazine

**Hatch
Magazine**



HighCountry
Angler



MONTANA
FLY FISHING MAGAZINE



The New
FlyFisher

Donate and/or Buy

Make a Donation

Buy RMF Merchandise



Sustaining Donors

Rocky Mountain Flycaster Sustaining Donors



St. Peter's Fly Shop



Bob Green
Jenna Merrit
Michael Ringus
The Nature Conservancy
Frank Cada
Dennis Cook
Frank Bub
Mathew Doll
Yang Qian &
Edward McConnaughey
Kent Christensen

Linda Jefferies
in Memoriam
Steve Craig
Colin Randall
Luke Beitel
Karl Kronberg
Lee Evans
Greg Evans
Wil Huett
Mark Miller
Domingo Rodriguez
Kirk Madsen

The Mishawaka
David Morse
Domingo Duvall
Ted Sammond
Scheels
Norma Stallworth
CSU Flyfishing Club
Jay's Bistro
Paul Hilbrecht
Paul Wehr
Guy Turenne

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

2019-12-01

Volunteer · Youth Outreach · Calendar · President's Beat · Membership · Newsletter
Conservation News · Colorado/National · Fun Fishing Trips · RMF Merchandise · Fish Stories
About Us · Fly Shops · Contact Us

Bob Green, *The Flypaper* Editor.