



## Fly Paper

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### Next meeting Sept 13, 6:30 PM Speaker is Greg Felt of Ark Anglers, Salida, CO on the Arkansas River

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#### President's Beat

Hello again. I hope that all of you have been having a fun summer, including many fishing trips. It seems like a long time since our last meeting and still a while to go till our next meeting on 13 September. Some chapters meet year round, and I guess the subject is one that could stand some discussion. Please let us know how you feel about the summer break.

Our last meeting was quite enjoyable and informative. Our speaker for May was Gary Willmart who presented a fine show about fly fishing southern Colorado. Gary's knowledge and enthusiasm for this area prompted lots of questions from the audience.

If you are aware of a potential program for our club please contact Rich Bauer or me. It is getting difficult to line up speakers every month. If you any alternative ideas, besides destination speakers let us know about them also. One thing to look forward to in the near future is the annual chapter picnic held once again at Sylvan Dale Ranch. It is on September 24, a Sunday, as usual. Please mark your calendar now it will be a certain success.

The September 13 meeting will feature Greg Felt of Ark Anglers out of Salida, CO.

This is Greg's second appearance at our chapter for those of you with long memories. Greg will be giving the chapter a show about his home waters, the Arkansas River. As you know the Arkansas is a world renowned fishery with a legendary Mother's Day caddis hatch. Greg will be giving us the low down on the entire 100 miles of prime fishing, when and where to fish, where the public access is and most importantly, how to avoid the "rubber hatches". - Tom Post

#### Annual RMFC Picnic

Attention all RMFC members! Get ready to have some fun on Sept. 24 because we will be having our annual social picnic/fishing event at Sylvan Dale Guest Ranch. This is one of our most popular events of the season, and it's always a hit with our RMFC members and their families. We will again have the Daddy J. Pavilion reserved from 11:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M.

Catch and release fly fishing will be available by the 'Ranch at Daddy J. pond as well as Rainbow Lake on the beautiful grounds at Sylvan Dale. The Big Thompson River is also available for those who want to enjoy catching and releasing the wild rainbow and brown trout that inhabit the waters. A valid Colorado license is required to fish the river, but no license is required for the ponds. All fishing MUST be catch and release, and all children under 18 MUST be accompanied by an adult. Barbless flies only please.

RMFC will provide beer and soda pop, and the usual BBQ (brisket and chicken) so please bring a side dish to share with your friends. ....Donations will be welcome and we may even have a rod raffle. So come and have a great time, meet your fellow chapter members out of doors, with fly rode in hand.

The picture is from last year's rather wet picnic...but the fishing and story telling were excellent!

[Ed Note: Sylvan Dale Guest Ranch is easy to find. Take US 34 West of Loveland to the mouth of the Big-T Canyon. If you get to the Dam

Store you just passed the Ranch entrance on the North side of the road.]

**The new Colorado Wildlife Commission's Policy for stocking WD-positive fish was mailed on 27 June.** The major new policy is that WD-positive fish will not be stocked in any water that can naturally reproduce trout or in still water above those areas. This policy went into effect last July and will be in effect at least through the 2003 stocking season. Snake River Cutthroats, a strain less susceptible to WD will be stocked (Poudre among other places) and their mortality checked over the next three years.



### Some good advice for the advanced tyers in the club. (FFF newsletter)

We often watch accomplished tyers and we are amazed at how quickly the flies come out of the vise. Unfortunately, most often even when we get to watch a fast tyer, we only get to watch at slow

speed because they are generally demonstrating a special technique or pattern and are talking their audience through the process. Even worst they are often demonstrating several different patterns and we never get to see them in their rhythm at production speed.

We know they are fast, but somehow we just can't put our finger on what

he or she is doing that makes them that fast so we chalk it up to lots of experience or practice. Both experience and practice help but they are not the total answer as we know lots of tyers with plenty of both that are so slow that one can take a short nap between flies.

The answer is a combination of many small things which all add up to shave time off of each fly. Here are some recommendations that should help. Most of these are from my own experience.

1. As I have said before, sort your materials, especially the hackles, and organize your work space before you start. Get in the habit of having your wax, cement, tools and any other essentials at the same spot on the worktable. Lay out all the

materials you need for the specific pattern that you are going to tie. Clean the leftovers from your previous sessions off of the tabletop. Put away all that material you won't need for this session.

2. Establish a rhythm to your tying. You can most easily accomplish this by tying only one size and pattern when you sit down at your vise. As a good rhythm develops you will find yourself using the same number of wraps without counting them as you did on the prior fly at each step, your thread will be hanging at the same spot when you have to let go of the bobbin, and you can pick up the next piece of material almost without looking.

3. Cut off enough material at one time to tie several flies but not so much that you lose control or that it hinders your tying. For example, cut off enough chenille for a half dozen flies at one time, not only is this faster but there is less waste of material. Another example, when cutting and stacking hair for wings, cut as much as your stacker can effectively handle at one time. After stacking, separate what you need and leave the rest in the stacker for the next few flies or carefully lay it on the edge of your table where it won't get knocked off and you can just pick up what you need for the next fly.

4. Avoid handling of materials more than necessary. This is especially true of loose materials like deer hair and bucktail that you have just stacked. Always try to take it out of the stacker in such a manner as to reduce the amount of transferring from hand to hand. Not only will you save time but also you avoid losing control of the material.

5. Eliminate unnecessary steps from your tying wherever possible. Some examples of this are:

A. Don't set your scissors down unless you have to.

B. Whenever feasible cut the butt end of your material before you tie it in rather than afterward. (Many materials can be tied in with very short butts or can be pulled back slightly after the first couple of wraps to avoid the post wrap-in trim).

C. The nature of many materials allows the excess to be snapped off rather than resorting to the scissors. The tag end of the tying thread when starting a fly, single and double peacock herl stems when used for butts and heads and some hackles can be treated in this manner.

6. Learn to work with a short amount of thread outside the bobbin. Small circles are faster to make than large ones.

7. This one may be hard for some tiers because old habits are hard to break, but keep your hands at the fly. You have tied in the tail, the ribbing material, wrapped the body and cutoff the excess material; now instead of lowering your hands and admiring your work as you may have done between each of the previous steps keep your hands at the fly and start wrapping the ribbing! You will be amazed at how much the elimination of this simple non-productive act will speed your tying.

8. Many steps are best done as a separate step from the routine tying process of the individual fly. I cement all the heads at one time after a tying session rather than after each fly. If the pattern calls for bead chain or lead eyes, or a weighted body I will prepare the hooks in advance so the cement will have a chance to dry.

9. Last but not least, really think about what you are doing, how the fly is assembled, and what changes you might make without sacrificing quality. Is there a better order for tying in the materials, is there a better spot at which to tie them in or tie them off?

## Calendar of Events

**General Meetings** Sept 13, Oct 11, Nov 8

**Chapter Picnic** September 24 starting at 11 AM at Sylvan Dale Ranch.

**Board Meetings** Sept 19, Oct 17, Nov 14

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 Tuesday 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.

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