



February 2019

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From the President

February 1, 2019

As I write this on February 1, I am really glad I moved away from the Midwest and eventually came back to Colorado! I remember those icy cold blasts that moved through Champaign and Peoria, IL every winter. In fact, my parents who were lifelong westerners and lived at 7,000 ft for many years swore they would never visit me and my family in the winter again after experiencing that humid, windy cold that could cut through many layers of clothing like a hot knife can slice through warm butter. I am thinking about going fishing tomorrow, while my kids who still live there sit huddled in their homes!



Mickey McGuire, RMF President

As I look forward to upcoming events in February, I am most excited about our Fly Tying Expo that will be held February 20. This is our biggest event of the year and will feature some major fly tiers, a great dinner from Caninos and for the first time a beer donated by ODells. In addition, this is our major fund raiser for the year so be sure to take advantage of the opportunity to donate to the Chapter while taking home special offerings on our silent and live auctions.

Because we are an all volunteer organization and no overhead is collected from Colorado TU or National TU, all donations you make to the Chapter go directly into our programs to support our mission: "To conserve, protect, sustain and restore Northern Colorado's cold-water fisheries and their watersheds for current and future generations".

Speaking of our Mission, I am excited to announce the formation of a committee to develop a list of all activities for 2019. The committee, led by Bob Green our Newsletter editor, is comprised of members who lead the various aspects of our volunteer operations. I have asked for a tight deadline to develop and make available a list of volunteer activities so that you, our members, can identify where you might contribute your time, talent or treasure to support our Chapter.



Be sure to see Dennis Cook's article in this Newsletter concerning our leadership positions that need to be filled. Our elections will occur in May, but the slate needs to be developed in the next month or so. For anyone wanting to get involved on the Board of Trustees, or other

leadership positions, reach out to Dennis or other members of the Leadership Development/Nominations Committee (Wil Huett, Bob Green, Lee Evans) for further information.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the Expo; until then keep warm and I hope you get out to the rivers when you can.

Mickey McGuire
President

February Meeting: Annual Fly Tying Expo!



Adams TO Zonkers

Rocky Mountain Flycasters

2019 Annual Fund-Raising Fly Tying Expo
Wednesday February 20, 2019 from 5:30 to 9:00 pm

Two dozen professional and experienced tiers demonstrate their skills and share tips on tying and fishing their signature flies.

- Food provided by Caninos
- Beginner's table to learn tying your own flies
- Random drawings for each tier's flies and a fly rod
- Live and silent auction with many quality equipment items, supplies, books, art, etc.

Learn from such tiers as: Rick Takahashi, Chris Krueger, Phil Iwane, Marty Staab, Dick Shinton, Mark McMillan, Al Ritz, Eric Pectine, Tim England, Grant Houx, and others.

Funds raised support conservation and education projects, including restoring the fishing pier on the Big Thompson River, greenback trout restoration in several locations, and our annual Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Day Camp.

Admission: \$20 per person (\$10 for students with ID, under 12 free). With the price of admission, you get a plate of food and a beverage, ten (10) raffle tickets (five (5) for students, none for under 12) for the fly and rod drawings, and a wealth of tying and fishing information.

Don't miss this once-a-year opportunity.
When: February 20, 2019 5:30-9:00 pm
Where: Fort Collins Senior Center
1200 Raintree Drive
Fort Collins, CO

Our monthly membership meeting for February will be the Annual Fly Tying Expo. We will bring to the Fort Collins Senior Center nearly two dozen well-known and expert fly tiers to share tips and tricks about tying their signature flies as well as hints about how to use them to lure fish to your line.

Admission is \$20 per person (\$10 for students with ID, under 12 free.) With the price of admission, you get a plate of food (catered by Caninos) and a beverage, ten raffle tickets (5 for students, none for under 12) for the fly and rod raffle drawings, and a wealth of tying and fishing information.

We'll have live and silent auctions for amazing gear and guided fishing trips and raffle drawings for flies and a fly rod. For more details, see our calendar page for February 20, 2019

Sponsored in part by:



2019-02-20

Other Events in February



Board Meeting: Wednesday, February 13 at 6:00 PM; everyone is invited to attend this meeting at the offices of The Group, Realtors.



Monthly Membership Meeting, Fly Tying Expo, catered by Caninos, February 20 at 5:30 PM.



Fly Swap: The theme for the February Fly Swap is Leach flies. These will be exchanged at the February Fly Tying Expo. Examples include Pine Squirrel Leach, Mohair Leach, Hothead Leach, Egg Sucking Leach, etc. These are great flies for pre-runoff flow at Gray Reef and elsewhere. To participate, Contact Dave Morse to determine how many copies of your fly to tie. Include a small toe tag with the fly's name, recipe, and your name. This is a fine way to hone your skills and pick up new tying ideas. One fly goes into the monthly raffle. We currently need you to tie 8 flies. Thanks for participating. Contact [Dave Morse](#) to sign up.

[Click Here For Calendar Of All Upcoming Events](#)

From Dennis Cook, Nominations and Leadership Chair, Laison to CSU Fly Fishing Club



CHAPTER LEADERSHIP WE NEED YOU!

Each year the Rocky Mountain Flycasters Chapter (RMFC) Bylaws require that we elect a new Board of Trustees consisting of chapter officers President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and two additional Trustees at Large that are elected at our Annual membership Meeting in May. Current President Mickey McGuire is responsible to ensure this is done, and is assisted by an appointed Nominations and Leadership Committee: Dennis Cook - Chair, Lee Evans, Bob Green and Wil Huett. This committee also assists the President to identify members who have interest and capabilities

needed to staff various committee positions that assist the Board Trustees to operate chapter projects, business needs and various other activities.

The committee needs your help now to ensure that we have strong Board leadership ensuring that RMFC effectively supports TU's Coldwater Conservation Mission and also provides an enthusiastic chapter community supporting membership's favorite outdoor past-time of fly fishing.

Every year members' lives change making some capable individuals more available to volunteer some of their time, plus new members join who also bring needed leadership capabilities. Each member can help by seriously considering what s/he can do and to reassess and free up some of his or her available time to help move our chapter forward.

Your help is needed! Now! Please take a few minutes to consider your own ability to help. Many needs exist to participate and help on a chapter team as a Trustee or as a committee chairperson, coordinator, or team member. There are current, and will be next fiscal year, openings for Board Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer or Trustee at Large. There also are now and will be next year opportunities leading or participating on committees for Conservation, Media Outreach, Youth, Membership and all of our other chapter committees.

Please take some action now. Volunteer or at least inquire and learn more about how you can help make RMFC better.

Contact:

Dennis Cook	email Dennis	or cell (970) 372-9229
Lee Evans	email Lee	or cell (970) 443-0197
Bob Green	email Bob	or cell (252) 255-8204
Wil Huett	email Wil	or cell (970) 222-5336

Editor's Note: The photo above is NOT Dennis Cook!

Colorado State Fly Fishing Club Update



The CSU fly fishing club had a great fall semester and big plans for the spring semester. There are currently a record-breaking 92 members in the club. In the fall, multiple beginner's days and casting clinics were held for new anglers. Other highlights included catching Kokanee in Gunnison with the club from Western Colorado University and a trip to Walden. Both trips included time for river clean ups.

The spring semester calendar for the club is busy! The first outing will be an ice fishing trip in collaboration with the CU Boulder club on Saturday February 9th.

We've also teamed up with St. Pete's for a movie night to raise money for conservation on Wednesday, February 13th at New Belgium Brewery. Tickets and information are available at both St. Pete's locations! Conservation chair Joe Pitti is planning two conservation projects for March in the Poudre Canyon and Big Thomson area, respectively. Later in March, club members will be heading out to Pyramid Lake for spring break, to take their chances fly fishing for Lahontan Cutthroats. As always, tying nights and guest speakers will continue throughout the year.

We're looking forward to sharing our passion for fly fishing.

Rivers and News

There has been a lot of news lately involving rivers and their fates and fortunes. I thought I'd recap some you might have missed.

How about that mine waste dam disaster in Brazil recently? Last I heard the death toll was near 100, with two to three times that number still missing. The mine waste continues to flow down the Paraopeba River with as yet unknown environmental effects. The company which owns the burst dam hurriedly announced plans to dismantle ten others. They had a similar failure in 2015 when 19 people died and toxic mud flowed 550 miles downstream into the Atlantic Ocean.

But you don't remember that event, right? I don't either.

Maybe even the current one escaped your notice? Was the last mine waste disaster we recall when the Animas flowed orange through Durango?

Do an internet search for mining dam disasters and after you pick your chin up off the floor you may realize **TU's opposition*** to the Pebble Mine is not just knee-jerk anti-mining sentiment.

Local waters haven't escaped making recent news either. Big Thompson restoration efforts got this treatment by the *Loveland Reporter-Herald*. Read the article: http://www.reporterherald.com/news/larimer-county/ci_32394545/big-thompson-fishing-pier-be-complete-by-may



Wil Huett, Past President

Project from Rossum to Wilson will be completed this summer

If you are relatively new to the area you may wonder why the Big T needs restoring. Just ask any old-timer about the twin disasters of the 2012 wildfires and 2013 floods and RMF's role in kick-starting restoration efforts on both of our 'home rivers'. We helped establish the Coalition for the Poudre River Watershed and the Big Thompson Restoration Coalition. Both used our tax-exempt status as they got their feet under them and we are proud to see these 'offshoots' standing on their own as active and valued conservation partners.

Poudre River projects and problems made headlines in both the *Loveland Reporter-Herald* and the *Fort Collins Coloradoan*:

Fish ladder to connect fragmented Poudre

Poudre River fish kill likely unrelated to whitewater park construction

'Poudre River alternative' steals the spotlight at Thornton pipeline hearing

Sound like there's a lot going on? Well, stay tuned, sometimes the controversies about water move faster than the water itself.

*There is a strong NoCo connection with TU's Pebble Mine efforts. Meghan Barker, a local woman, is the Alaska Organizer for TU. She is currently traveling the lower 48 informing people about the mine proposal and why TU opposes it. Meghan made a presentation to our January Leadership Team meeting and also participated in our Volunteer Orientation last month.

Through those events many of us had the opportunity to learn more about the proposed mine and how to best express our opinions. Meghan will be providing information for the registration packets at our Fly Tying Expo this month. Look for it when you check in.

Thomas Wurster's St. Peter's Fishing

Forecast for January



There is no doubt that January was a tough month to get through. With the snow, cold temps, and locked up water fishing was something that we could only dream of or drive several hours to tailwater to do. Even then, it comes with the endurance of frigid temperatures, microscopic bugs, and technical tailwaters. I'd be lying if I said February is going to change a whole lot, but it does get us one month closer to Spring! Something every Fly Fisherman should be looking forward too. If your anything like me, you've been day dreaming of warmer days in the high country feeding stubborn Cutthroat trout, throwing large terrestrials to eager freestone browns, or simply just fishing without the constant fear of slipping on ice. This February, there is more to do than just tying flies in the basement. St. Peter's Fly Shop has put together an awesome highlight reel from past seasons of the F3T (Fly Fishing Film Tour) called "Rewind and Brew Time" held at New Belgium Brewing on February 13th@6:30pm. Tickets are available at either shop and are cash only. Call

either shop for more details on this event. If epic fly fishing films doesn't get you excited, there's tons going on throughout this month to keep you occupied. Gear up and get ready for the new fishing season at St. Peter's Annual Simms Day, February 23rd. We will have in shop specials on all Simms products with a chance to win a \$500 spending spree & a new Winston fly rod of your choice! It's a great time to come in and get some tickets entered in for your chance to win! Don't let the winter Blues get to you. Stop by either shop for advice on fishing locations, bugs, and all the other nitty gritty details we love sharing about fly fishing.

If you have an interest or questions please give us a call at (970)-498-8968 or visit our Destination Travels Page here: <https://stpetes.com/blog/destination-travel>

Thomas Wurster

The Online Fly Fishing Magazine Library

The active link (click) icons below represent a beginning attempt to put together a group of FREE resources available to fly anglers. *Trout Magazine* is published by Trout Unlimited-USA and *High Country Angler* is published by Trout Unlimited-Colorado. Both of these publications are limited to TU members. The others, however, are for everyone.

This page will be continually updated so you can always get to the most current issue of both of these magazines. Just click on the icon of the magazine you wish to read.

Please help me update these magazines by sending the URL for any FREE resources that you find worthwhile. Happy reading! Paul Wehr, our webmaster, just submitted a new magazine. Give it a try : <https://dunmagazine.com>

Hatch Magazine

HighCountry
Angler

 **DUN** Magazine



MONTANA
FLY FISHING MAGAZINE



The New
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Let's Go Fishing with Mark Miller

RMF 2019 Fishing Trip Listing

Here's wishing everyone some fly fishing fun for 2019. As you can see below, some months still have trips that are in the planning stage, with exact dates and locations to be nailed down over the next month or so.

As in most years, the majority of our trips are to local waters, such as the Poudre, RMNP (Dream Lake), Lake Agnes/Joe Wright Reservoir, and Red Feather Lakes.

Our one exotic trip is planned for March to Gray Reef on the North Platte River (please email Ben Zomer (benmz@comcast.net) if you would like to go on this trip. Lodging is reserved for 8 people. We also hope to put together a trip over the Memorial Day weekend to either the lower Green River below Fontanelle Dam in WY, (where we can fish the tailwater below the dam, and also float and fish parts of the Seedskafee National Wildlife Refuge a few miles further downstream from the dam), or float the Wind River just upstream from Thermopolis. Both of these destinations are a 6 hour drive. The Green River at Fontanelle Dam would require camping, since it is pretty much in the middle of nowhere (translation = no crowds!). Please contact Mark Miller (flytyer.miller@gmail.com) to let him know if you are interested in any of these trips.

If you are a new or beginner fly fisherman, we want you to join us for our trips – we love to help anyone get started in fly fishing, and to help people learn new skills or techniques.

Wherever you decide to fish this year, good luck and tight lines!

Date(s)	Location	Host
March 8-10	Gray Reef	Ben Zomer
April 12	Poudre River (Gateway Area) - Friday	Mark Miller
May TBD	Red Feather Lakes	Bob Green
May 23-27	Green River/Seedskafee or Wind River	Mark Miller
June 29	Lake Agnes and Joe Wright Reservoir	David Morse
July TBD	Local Waters - TBD	TBD
August TBD	Local Waters - TBD	TBD
Sep 7	Dream Lake in RMNP -Saturday	Mark Miller
Oct TBD	Colorado River float – Friday-Sunday	Mark Miller
Nov TBD	Miracle Mile- weather permitting – Fri-Sun	Mark Miller

Video of the Month



This month's video was suggested by Paul Wehr, our Webmaster. It should have particular appeal to those anglers who enjoy films in general.

Please send me your suggestions for future videos of the month. It only takes a minute. Why not share something you enjoy?

Rocky Mountain Flycaster Sustaining Donors



St. Peter's Fly Shop



Bob Green
Karl Kronberg
Bruce Biggi
Frank Cada
Dennis Cook
Yang Qian &
Edward McConnaughey
Adam Omernick

Lee Evans
Greg Evans
Fast Signs
Wil Huett
Mickey McGuire
Michael Ringus
Domingo Rodriguez
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Paul Hilbrecht
Eric Pettine
Richard Withey
Paul Wehr

2019-02-01

Bob Green, *The Flypaper* Editor.