

COLORADO

WOMEN

FLY FISHERS[®]

A sociable club for women who flyfish

June 2007 Vol. XI, No. 6

JUNE MEETING

DATE:

Tuesday, June 5, 2007

TIME:

5:30 - 6:30 Social Hour
6:30 - 7:30 Dinner (Optional, \$10.00)
7:30 - 8:30 Program

PLACE:

Piccolo's Restaurant
3563 S. Monaco Parkway (near the corner of Hampden), Denver

PLEASE BRING:

A donation for our monthly Raffle
A flyfishing friend *New guests are welcome!*

How to Get There

Piccolo's is located at 3563 S. Monaco Parkway, Denver, approx. one-half mile east of I-25 near the southwest corner of Hampden and Monaco in the King Soopers shopping center. Go to the private banquet room on the right side of the restaurant. We will be there!

Take light rail for a new and less stressful trip to the meeting.

At our June Meeting...

QUICK TRIPS TO HOT SPOTS

with Kerry Caraghar

Picture this: It's a beautiful evening, and you have some time after work. You just want to get your line wet. Or, an hour or two is all you can spare after mowing and weeding on a Saturday.

Come hear Kerry Caraghar talk about all the good fishing spots within an hour of Denver.

Born in Pine and raised on the South Platte, Kerry has been guiding in Colorado for many years. He will show us the ins and outs of fishing Bear Creek, Clear Creek, the South Platte above Chatfield reservoir — and more good, easy places near the city.

So, if you're one of our many busy Denver-area Club members, come hear about the quick trips we can make to satisfy that fishing twitch, when there's just no time to spend hours on the road. — *Jody Yehle, Vice President and Program Chair*

CWF Calendar

May 31	.....	Casting for Recovery Silent Auction
June 5	.....	Program Meeting
June 9-10	.....	Club Weekend Trip, Green River, UT
June 23	.....	Club Day Trip, The Blue River
August 14	.....	Next Board Meeting

Welcome New Members

Aleta Beekman	.....	Denver
Kimberly Key	.....	Arvada
Nancy Krueger	.....	Johnston
Barbara Lemmon	.....	Grand Junction
Gretchen Nylander	.....	Denver
Barb Peneder	.....	Pine
Betty Rendon	.....	Denver
Chris Sterkel	.....	Denver
Elizabeth Thompson	.....	Superior
Susan Turner	.....	Arvada
Erin Williams	.....	Arvada

• 59 New Members Enrolled in 2007.



FOUL HOOKED: Your newsletter production staff is experiencing another impediment to its work. The postal authorities have not only raised postage rates but also have tagged on a proviso that now mail is not rated only by weight but also by size. Therefore, in order to keep postage cost reasonable for mailing the newsletter, the production staff must now fold and tape the 8-1/2 x 11 newsletter in order to keep within the new 58 cent rate. To receive the newsletter flat, as you have in the past few years, would cost 92 cents for each, much too costly for the publisher's budget. We regret this change and hope the membership will understand the extra work imposed on the happy, but beleaguered production staff. — Ed.

BACK CAST

MAY PROGRAM: COOL NYMPHING TECHNIQUES

BY ARLYS WARFIELD

Janice O'Shea's talk and slide show drew another packed house. The crowd hung on every word, trying to learn how to improve their nymphing skills. Janice's presentation was very specific; she definitely uses her professional teaching skills to impart her flyfishing knowledge.

She explained the key fact of flyfishing is that 90-95% of fish caught are caught using nymphing techniques, not dry flies. To that end, Janice described her very effective methods, including the following tackle setup (*see drawing below*):

- Use 7-1/2 ft, 3x, 4x or 5x leader, depending on the water and trout size you are fishing to. (Rio is her favorite brand), with 12" of tippet to the first fly and 14-16" of tippet to the 2nd fly;
- Place weight on the knot, which attaches the tippet to the leader (add more weight if you are not catching fish);
- Indicator(s): Place indicator(s) halfway up the leader to begin (water is usually deeper than it looks) and adjust as necessary. Place two micro balls, attached with #33 rubber bands, on the leader 4-6" apart. Janice believes this 2-indicator system is more effective than using only one indicator. since the angler can quickly see if there is drag on the fly when the micro balls separate (balls should go parallel downstream).
- Tie larger fly on the point; smaller fly as 2nd fly (Janice prefers tying the 2nd fly to the hook eye of the first fly, not on the bend of the hook);

Successful Nymphing Techniques

"Positive mindset is key and positioning is also very important in order to catch fish."

JANICE O'SHEA

• Positive mindset is key and positioning is also very important in order to catch fish. Always go to a river or stream knowing that you will catch fish. The 2-indicator technique has proven successful, and this should give the angler the confidence needed to go after trout.

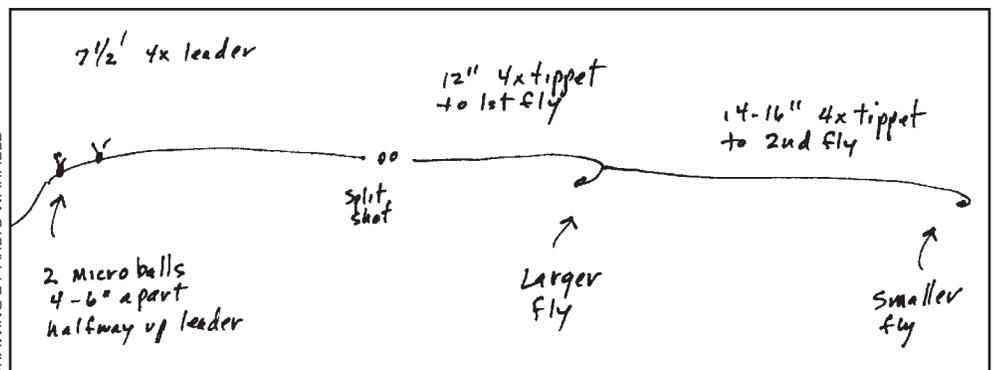
• Positioning is very important and is the next step to success. You MUST first decide where to stand to present your fly. Your first cast and drift are most important. Standing behind and to the side of trout is one position to take, and one which Janice starts with. The closer you can get to a fish you spot, the better. That may mean fishing on your knees.

• Cast up and across to catch fish on a downstream drift. If you spot good holding water and do not see trout, the best cast to make for the longest drift is the up and across cast. After your drag free drift, let the line swing downstream and all the way to the side toward the bank. Most fish are caught on this downstream side because the trout see the fly first and not the line. The fly also looks like an emerger or nymph breaking away and scampering toward the bank. The downstream swing is great with stonefly nymphs.

• Bigger flies catch bigger fish. You will read a lot about small flies catching big fish. That holds true sometimes. Not always. You'd be surprised how many bigger fish you will catch on bigger flies. Pay close attention to the invertebrates moving around in the river. If you move 15-20 feet up or downstream, look again at the insects in the section you move into. They may be different from what you started with. Certain insects inhabit faster waters than others.

- Keep a log book of rivers you have fished and the flies used;

CONTINUED





PHOTOGRAPH BY KAY DUSHANE

EXAMPLE OF GOOD NYMPHING TECHNIQUE Big fish in hand.

GO FISH THE GREEN RIVER

JUNE 9 AND 10 CLUB WEEKEND TRIP

BY DAWN DOBSON, TRIPS CO-CHAIR

Stock up on big flies and get excited for catching healthy big fish! We are once again returning to fish the famous Green River. We will be stalking large browns, rainbows, and cuttbows along an 18-mile stretch of river below the Flaming Gorge Reservoir in northeastern Utah. The most popular stretch is called the “A” section, which begins just below the dam and runs 7.2 miles through beautiful canyons. The 11-mile “B” section below often gets less pressure and holds fewer, yet often larger fish. If our timing is right we may hit the infamous cicada hatch. These are very large, ugly bugs that can entice any trout to the surface! Although these unique creatures took a brief hiatus following a large fire in the area, the word is that they seem to be making a comeback this year.

Gear Up

Bring your 5-6 weight rods and use 4x leaders. The guys at Trout Creek recommend the following patterns: sizes 6-10 cicadas, 10-12 Chernoble ants, 12-14 foam beetles with peacock or black chenille bodies, and 10-14 crickets. It’s always best to check in with the local shops to see what is happening on the river. It is also hard to find some of these larger patterns here in town, so you’ll probably want to plan on a bit of fly shopping. You will also need a Utah license. This can be purchased in the shops, but it will save you time if you purchase on-line before you leave home (<http://secure.utah.gov/hflo2/hflo>). Finally, remember that it is spring, and the weather can change or vary drastically, so bring all-weather gear, plenty of water and sunscreen!

Directions & Meeting Places

From Denver, the best route is to take I-25 north to I-80. Head west on I-80 toward Green River, Utah. Just after you go through Rock Springs, you will take Highway 191 south to Dutch John. Others may choose to take I-70 west to Rifle, go north to Meeker on Hwy 13, head west on U.S. 40 towards Vernal, UT. Exit north on Hwy 191 about 50 miles to Dutch John. The trip is about 6-7 hours.

We will base our operations from a small town called Dutch John. Many of our members have booked campsites at Deer Run Campground via www.reserveusa.com, while others are bunking at the nearby Flaming Gorge Lodge (435) 889-3773.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

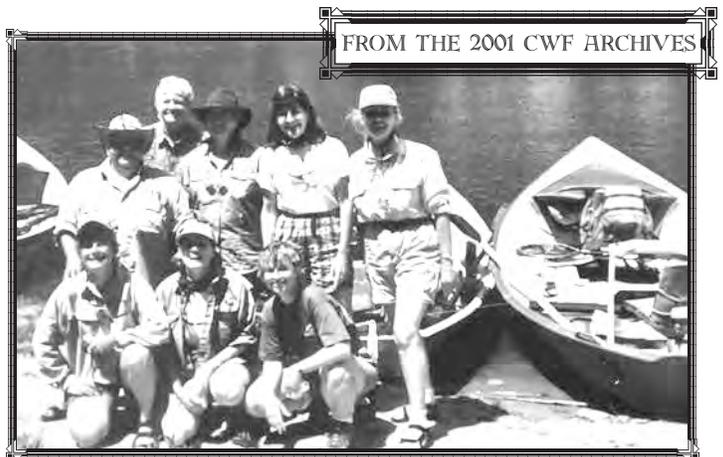
- Call a fly shop for fly advice in advance of your trip; also look under rocks and seine the stream for insect activity; study size, shape and color of insects;

- Streamer fishing: In low light conditions, use black woolly buggers; on sunny days and in chocolate water, use sparkle woolly buggers; add weight as needed to get the streamer down. Janice likes adding the weight about 10” above the streamer, if needed.

For additional information or questions about guide trips available (public or private water), see <http://www.trouttrips.com> or email Janice at fishing@trouttrips.com.

THE RAFFLE

The big winners were **Gloria Gudmundsen**, who took home two items: a nice reel and corkers, and **Blue Parish**, who won the flyline. Sandy Wright and Sandra Thornton both won caps and **Betty Peterson** had the winning ticket for the CWF Traveling Fly Box. ♦



FROM THE 2001 CWF ARCHIVES

FLOATING ACTION ON THE GREEN (Kneeling) Kay Willis, Nancy Rutherford, Chris Arthur; (Back Row) Cordie Medina, Arlys Warfield, Dee Bond, Diane Kyncl and Marion Nutt.

To Float, Perchance to Wade

This river is best fished by floating, but there are plenty of stretches that are accessible for wade fishing. Although it is prime season, you may still be able to book a guided trip with Trout Creek Flies (800) 435-4551, Old Moe Guide Service (435) 885-3342, or Flaming Gorge Lodge (435) 889-3773. They also offer shuttle service for those who float their own pontoon boats or rent rafts. Although this is a fairly gentle stretch of water, it is recommended that participants who row

on their own have experience floating Class 2-3 rapids. One last safety note: the river is dam-controlled and has been known to rise significantly throughout the day; when wading be mindful of water levels and avoid getting caught on the wrong side of the river with flows too swift to negotiate your way back. If you have any questions email, Dawn Dobson at dobsond@earthlink.net or call 303-777-8642. ♦

SATURDAY NIGHT BARBEQUE
 I'm having a barbecue party at my camper for anyone who would like to stop by. I'm at the Deer Run Campground in site #15. Grills will be ready about 7 p.m. Bring your own meat and drinks. It would also help if you brought your own utensils and chairs. I will supply the rest — we'll have time to eat, drink and share tales of fishing the Green River. — Joanie McCord

PHYLLIS VINSON'S SNEAK PEEKS

THE RIO GRANDE, Creede, CO

Weekend Trip: July 14-15

The Rio Grande River is one of the longest rivers in the United States, flowing 1,885 miles from headwaters in the San Juan Mountains of southern Colorado to the sea. The Rio Grande begins as a freestone stream flowing into the Rio Grande Reservoir about 27 miles west of Creede. The eight-mile stretch below the dam lies in the Weminuche Wilderness Area and is accessible to the public, but a challenge to reach.

The tailwater from Rio Grande Reservoir to Del Norte is the most popular section and is primarily a brown trout river with occasional rainbows and cutthroats. The average fish is around 14 inches, while fish in the 16 to 18 inch range are not uncommon. The Rio Grande below the dam flows east following Hwy 149 to South Fork and then on to Del Norte. Most of the fishing access is at campgrounds between the reservoir and Creede. Coller SWA, between Creede and South Fork, offers additional access. Between South Fork and Del Norte the river is designated Gold Medal water.

The Rio Grande offers everything for anglers who love to fish a variety of waters: from the small stream that forms the headwaters to big floatable water below the town of Creede.

Hatches

There could be hatches of caddis, stoneflies, as well as PMD, red quill and green drake mayflies during our visit.

Camping

Creede is centrally located along the upper Rio Grande. There are several Forest Service campgrounds in the area, with Marshall Park, Palisade and Rio Grande located closest to Creede. In and around Creede and South Fork are more RV parks, cabins, lodges and campgrounds.

Keep in mind, this is a popular tourist area and things could fill up quickly – book soon! The Creede (<http://www.creede.com>) and the South Fork Chambers of Commerce (<http://www.southforkcolorado.org>) offer extensive lists of possible lodging.

Contact me at phylv@compuserve.com for additional information or to sign up for the trip.

THE EAGLE RIVER, Day Trip: July 28

The Eagle is one of the last remaining freestone (un-dammed) rivers in Colorado. After leaving its origins near Tennessee Pass, it parallels I-70 and Hwy 6 (from which it is directly accessible), passing through the towns of Avon, Edwards, Wolcott and Eagle. Fish in the Eagle average 12" to 14" but larger fish can be caught. Fish hooked in the Eagle, no matter the size, will give you a worthy fight.

As we are visiting the river late in the summer, we can expect the river to be wadable but the fishing to be technical with low, clear, swirling water.

Hatches

We might run into hatches of PMD, Red Quill or Green Drake mayflies but be prepared for some variety of caddis to be emerging with size 14 to 20 dries and some green or tan larva patterns.

In late July, join us on the road less traveled (Hwy 6) and fish the Eagle River.

GO FISH THE BLUE RIVER

JUNE 23RD CLUB DAY TRIP

BY PHYLLIS VINSON,
TRIPS CO-CHAIR

The "Blue" is a scenic Gold Medal river containing rainbows, Snake River cutthroats, cutbows and browns. It can be fly fished from Breckenridge to the Dillon Reservoir; then from the dam downstream to Kremmling. But, by far, the largest percentage of the public access is found between Dillon and Green Mountain Reservoirs (10 of the 17 miles), although there is some additional public access below Green Mountain. Colorado Hwy 9 runs parallel to the river, with river access clearly marked by Division of Wildlife signs and at parking areas. There are also several National Forest easements. Some of the access points are Blue River Campground, Sutton Unit, Eagle's Nest, Palmer Gulch, and the Blue River State Wildlife Unit.

Late June should bring PMDs, caddis and maybe some leftover stones. If we are lucky, our date will also catch early Green Drakes. If we're less lucky, we'll catch some high water. Runoff usually occurs mid-May to mid-June, so we should be in good shape. But don't be put off if the flows are higher than summer levels, as the fishing can be good then – just fish the edges. It is said that the Blue fishes the best at over 400cfs.

Meeting Place

We will be meeting at 7:00 a.m. at the Park 'n Ride at I-70 and Morrison Road for the trip up to the river. If you are interested in joining us, please sign up at the next member's meeting — or email me at phylv@compuserve.com. ♦

CWF CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

PROPERTY FOR SALE

Most affordable flyfishing getaway in Colorado! RV lot with 33' Holiday Rambler travel trailer and 10'x20' attached constructed living room, plus storage shed. Includes water, sewer, trash; electric (pay for amount used); exclusive access to private stretch of Arkansas River and Brown's Canyon BLM. Located in Nathrop (near Buena Vista). \$42K. For photos and details, contact Carol Neville, (719) 371-3781 or email carolnev@cnfinfan.com

ALERT: cwftalk is Moving to Google Groups

BY KAREN WILLIAMS, WITH SOME TEXT AND ILLUSTRATIONS BY JANET CANAAN

We have had so much trouble with Topica.com that we are moving **cwftalk** to googlegroups.com. Googlegroups is widely used as a listserv and has some neat features. For those who don't know, **cwftalk** is our listserv for mass emailing of trip information, individual members to share fishing dates or other messages . . . or anything Club-related that board members

need to alert the membership.

Here's what you need to do to join (yes, it looks complicated, but just follow the steps).

Step 1

After the June meeting, we will send out emails to everyone for whom we have an email address. The sender will be *noreply@googlegroups.com*. It will say you have been invited to join the members only group for

groups.com that will look something like this:

"Welcome to Google Accounts. To activate your account and verify your e-mail address, please click on the following link:"

<http://www.google.com/accounts/VE?service=groups2&c=5640784235497790719&hl=en>

When you click on the link you will go to a Thank you page. You close that page and now you have a Google account.

Step 3

When you have a Google account, you can click on the first link in the email from *noreply@googlegroups.com*. This will confirm you want to join **cwftalk**.

Once you are a member...you can sign on to Google (account you set up previously), and you'll see a screen that looks like this (at right):

It will list **cwftalk** as one of your groups. You can go to **cwftalk** and read past emails, set up a profile and/or edit your membership. This is the cool part. You can control how many emails you will get. Go to edit your membership:

You can select 1) you want no emails – instead you will manually get on and read what is going on (not recommended. You may miss important trip information if you don't know to look for it); 2) get every email as it is posted; or 3) (my personal favorite), get a once a day summary of all the emails posted that day, if any.

Change Your Address Book

Now this is important! You must go to your address book in your email program and change the **cwftalk** email address from *cwftalk@topica.com* to *cwftalk@googlegroups.com*.

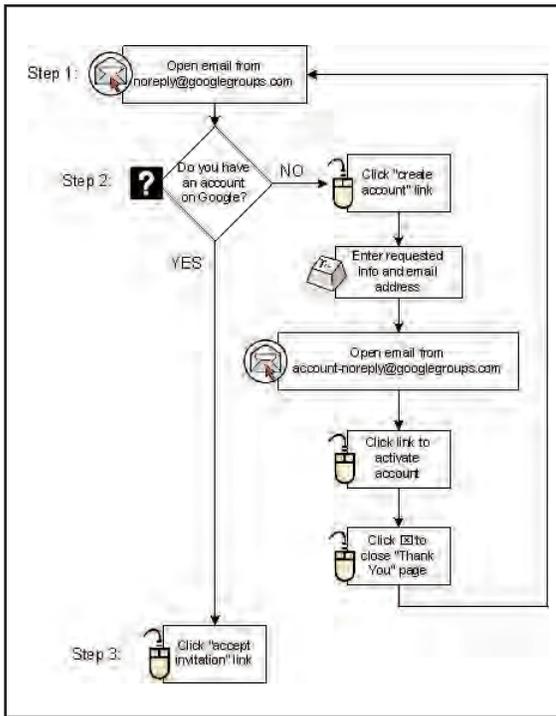
So that is all there is to it.

cwftalk at Topica.com Ends July 31

We will keep Topica.com running until July 31, but once you are a member of *cwftalk@googlegroups.com*, start posting to Google Groups.

If you don't get the invitation email, be sure to look in your junk email first. If you still have trouble, feel free to email me at *karen-william@comcast.net* to set up a time for me to help you. If you did not give Membership your email address, you may send it to me, and I will get you an invitation.

Thanks to the rest of the Technology Interest Group for their recommendations and help during testing period. Tip your rods to Dawn Dobson, Arlys Warfield, Carol Neville and Janet Canaan. ♦



Colorado Women Flyfishers, and below that you will see something like this:



You can accept this invitation by clicking the following URL:
<http://groups.google.com/group/cwftalk/sub?s=Sou7xQgAAAYJLPiGB-whazPjyVggGwg&hl=en>

Access to the group on the web requires a Google Account. If you don't have a Google Account set up yet, you'll first need to create an account before you can access the group. You can create an account at: <http://www.google.com/accounts/NewAccount?service=groups2&dEM=y0u%40yourserver.com&continue=http%3A%2F%2Fgroups.google.com%2Fgroup%2Fcwftalk%3Fhl%3Den>

Step 2

If you do not have an account on Google, you must click on the second link. It will take you to a page to create an account. You will enter your email address (they promise they will not sell it) and a password. You will then get an email from *account-noreply@google-*

NATIONAL FLY FISHING CHAMPIONSHIPS

TWO CLUB MEMBERS COMPETE IN THE CODY, WYOMING REGIONALS

BY SANDY WRIGHT

Janet Lopez and Sandy Wright competed for a place on the U. S. Team at the second qualifying event held in Cody, WY on April 28 and 29. Both enjoyed the event, and Sandy qualified for the nationals to be held in Boulder on October 2-6. The following are Sandy's impressions of their Wyoming experience.

So you think you might want to try competition flyfishing? If you can learn to nymph fish with no strike indicator and with no split shot, then you could possibly be on your way! Janet and I took up the challenge and headed for Cody in April to compete in the flyfishing regionals.

To practice before the competition you are allowed to fish any water except the actual competition beats! We fished the Clark's Fork River around Edelweiss and East Newton Lake as our practice lake. The actual competition river beats are kept secret. While you are practicing, and you think you are fishing the competition beats, all you need to do is either call the fly shop or look around for beat markers.

Setting Up the Competition

Here's how the Cody competition worked. Competitors were divided into four teams of 10 people; each team was assigned a number and that number corresponded with the lake and river venues. On assigned days, competitors pounded the waters for six hours: three hours on one river section and then switched to another river section. The same goes for the lake.

You try to catch and net the fish — and then that fish scores points for you! You are not allowed to touch the fish before it has been scored officially by the controller. All hooks must be barbless or that fish is disqualified! In this competition if you blank on a section, you are automatically given 10 points. If you catch fish you are given points according to how you rank within your team! The object is to catch fish so you don't blank.

Our Fishing Days

On the Clark's Fork River, which was blown out, we had very few fish caught. I fished it Saturday when it was 800 cfs of chocolate milk. Janet Lopez fished the river on Sunday when it was 1600cfs of chocolate milkshake! There were only six fish caught on Sunday on the Clark's Fork, and Janet was one of those who caught a fish! The flows changed that



JANET LEARNED NEW WAYS TO FISH Happily she catches without using an indicator or weight!



IT'S GOOD TO BE QUEEN Another regal catch for Sandy!

much overnight because it was very warm up there.

We fished Monster Lake as our competition lake. We had wind both days, and again not many fish were caught.

Meeting New Friends

We had a great time and met some really nice people. We hooked up with The Humble Fly Shop, and the owner took us out for the day just because he liked us so much. He pulled out all the secret flies for us, and we caught fish. You might think this helped us, and basically it helped our egos that day. A

brown was caught, and we pumped his stomach to find snails. Well, neither one of us had snails, so he tied us up some snails and dropped them off at our hotel late that night.

He also invited us to fish with him and Bernard (the bamboo rod builder for Scott Rods) all day Friday on the Clark's Fork! Since he is a guide up there, he pointed out where the fish would be (since the river was so high), and he helped us with fly selection!

What a great guy, and I would just like to say, "Thanks to Mike 'Moof' Mufich at The Humble Fly Shop!" Of course, the fly shop crew enjoyed the Corona beers we left them!

We had a great time and would like to thank CWF for sponsoring us and for the support both Janet and I have received.

See ya'all in Boulder!!! ♦

If you would like to read more about The National Fly Fishing Championships, go to www.nationalflyfishingchampionship.com and read about the final competitions.

EDUCATION
CWF SPRING CLINIC BRINGS
SMILES TO ATTENDEES

BY ANITA ENGLISH, CHAIR

After some bluegrass music to put smiles on their faces, 48 CWF members were off like a herd of turtles, and the 2007 CWF Spring Clinic was underway. The weather was just good enough; the hosts of the North Fork Ranch fed us a fantastic Mexican Feast; and the river was a flyfisher's dream. Our instructors, Kay Dushane, Kevin Gregory (the North Fork fish keeper), Janice O'Shea, Dana Rikimaru, Dan Wright, and Phyllis Vinson did an excellent job, as was evidenced by the number of big fat rainbows that were caught.

Thanks to all who participated and to those who helped make this a fun day for all. It was a hoot! ♦



PHOTOGRAPH BY ANITA ENGLISH



PHOTOGRAPH BY ANITA ENGLISH

Karen Savage learns to master her hemostats.



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOANIE MCCORD



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOANIE MCCORD

CLINICAL STUDIES (Top photo) Dana Rikimaru teaches her students the best dry fly techniques; (Middle photo) Leaders Kevin Gregory and Anita English survey their students gearing up for the day's lessons; (Bottom photo) Dana teaches Trout 101 to a group of new Club members.



PHOTOGRAPH BY GAYLE SNOOK

The cold but rapt casting class listens to Dan Wright.

MORE EDUCATION

FISHING IN STAINED AND DISCOLORED WATER

STONEFLIES CAN BE DEADLY DURING THE MUD SEASON

Although many waters in the Roaring Fork Valley remain clear during May, most other waters in the Rockies during May and June are high and muddy, due to spring runoff. Most people turn to tailwater and stillwater fisheries during this time of year, despite the fact that fish do feed in stained and discolored water situations.

Many flies and techniques can be employed in muddy waters that help the fish find the fly. First and foremost, one must understand that the bulk of the fishing we do in high water situations is nymph and streamer fishing. Fish typically will be hunkered down on the stream bottom and up against the banks.

Heavier rods in the 5- 6 weight categories are required, since we typically will be throwing big flies with ample weight that will drive the flies down to the bottom. Because of the stained water and larger flies, heavier leaders and tippets are also used. One can often get by fishing 2x, 3x and even heavier tippets.

Salmonflies

Large stonefly nymphs are most active during runoff, including the Pteronarcys or Salmonfly. This massive (2 - 3.5 inch) stonefly often becomes dislodged in the faster turbulent waters and becomes an easy, large meal for Mr. Trout. The peak hatch times for the Salmonfly also coincide with spring runoff. This is a hard hatch to time right (average durations last up to two weeks), although many an angler will tell you fond memories of the "Salmonfly Hatch of '72," or what have you.

An insect of this size makes even the stubborn large trout feed voraciously. Big nymph



patterns in sizes 4-8, like Kaufmann's Stone, Woolly Buggers, Poxback Stones and Molt-ing Stones will fish well. Fishing with two-fly rigs and a healthy amount of split shot will be required. If adult Salmonflies are being seen, big Orange Stimulators, Triple Decker and King

Kongs should be used. Salmonflies are clumsy fliers, and often land on the water with a noticeable splash. When casting these big dry flies be sure to "slap" your flies on the water surface. Fish take instant notice of all this commotion and typically react with an aggressive take. Several sub-species of stoneflies are common on most waters, from large Golden Stones to smaller Brown Stones. Due to the visibility of the water encountered, the larger stoneflies prove to be better fish catchers. The Colorado River in Glenwood Canyon and upriver below Gore Canyon provide good hatches of Salmonflies.

Other Big Flies to Fish

Other than the Salmonflies, big streamers also fish nicely. Look for patterns that have big profile heads made of spun hair or wool. These materials "push" and move large amounts of water when being stripped. Fish sense that moving water through their lateral line. A lateral line is the fish's super sensitive set of nerves that enables the fish to find your fly in muddy water and even at night. Another factor to keep in mind is fly color. Most people are under the impression that bright flies show up best in these conditions, while just the opposite is true. Blacks, browns, purples, and dark olives are best. This dark color provides a better contrast against the stained color of the water.

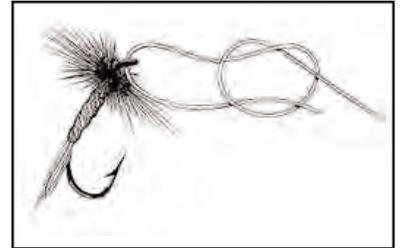
Areas to Fish

One other option for you to try is finding clear flowing tributaries that are running into the main river being fished. Fish will often congregate in the seam of the clear and muddy waters. A perfect example of this is the Frying Pan flowing into the Roaring Fork, or the many tributaries that flow into the Colorado. The fish can obviously see and eat insects in the clear water, while the muddy water provides the fish with protection from other predators. Try some of these flies and techniques next time you encounter muddy water, especially during the spring. The results will surprise you. Remember, the fish must continue to eat, despite what the water clarity looks like. ♦

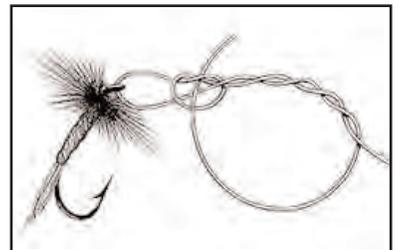
We thank our friends at Taylor Creek Fly Shop in Basalt for allowing us to borrow this item from their electronic newsletter. To subscribe, contact Kirk Webb at tcreek@ssv.net, or call 970-927-4374 and tell him you are a CWF member.

KNOTTY DOIN'S Lefty's Loop

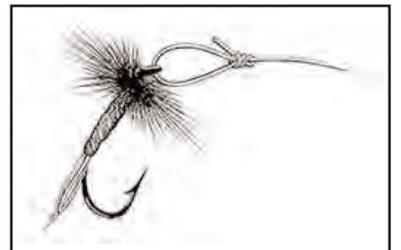
At the CWF Clinic, Kevin Gregory taught his class how to tie streamers to tippet. Nancy Sherman kindly shared this useful knot with the rest of us.



First, make an overhand knot configuration in the leader, pass the tag through the eye of the hook, then back through the overhand knot.



Wrap the leader and tag together from two to five times (Kevin wraps just two times, and the knot holds fine).



Pull the knot tight, using gentle pressure on the main line against the loop. With the open loop achieved, streamer will swing free and natural in the current.

This is one of Lefty Kreh's knots. Illustrations and text are reproduced from the "Complete Book of Knots and Rigs," written by Geoff Wilson. According to www.fishing-khaolak.com, this book is considered the "Knot Bible" and should be essential reading for anybody who has lost a fish because of a failed knot.

OUR GUIDING LIGHTS

GETTING TO KNOW OUR CLUB'S FISHING PROFESSIONALS

AN INTERVIEW WITH SHARON LANCE BY NANCY RUTHERFORD TURLEY

This is the sixth in a series of interviews with Club members who serve as professionals in the industry.

Q: Sharon, we know you have been very involved with Trout Unlimited (TU) in Colorado, and are to us a woman celebrity, having served as president of Colorado Trout Unlimited. But we are interested to know your flyfishing background.

A: I learned to flyfish from my husband, Mark, fourteen years ago. It was on the Bighorn River in Montana in late November — yes, November! It was very cold and my feet and hands were frozen, but I was catching and releasing fish. I fell in love with the sport immediately. I am a second-generation native of Colorado and my parents took me and my five brothers and sisters camping frequently — wherever there was water.

My father was a spin fisherman, and we always had a boat growing up, since my father loved the water. I loved to go out in the boat, but I never liked watching my mom kill the fish, even though I loved to eat them. My father is now 80 years old, and I am teaching him to flyfish — he loves it. I am fortunate enough to be able to fish all over the world with my husband — from Kamchatka, Russia to Patagonia in Chile and Argentina. I love catching any type of fish, from a 6" brookie to a 130 lb. sailfish.

Q: What is your current occupation and how did you get involved with Trout Unlimited?

A: I am a certified financial planner, with my own practice, Fortin Financial Services, Inc., for over 25 years. My husband introduced me to TU, and I felt that its mission was important. I decided that I could volunteer some of my time and business skills toward TU, since I am a strong believer in conservation. I wanted to try to give back, since flyfishing is my passion. I have seen the effect of the growing population on our beautiful state and want to help preserve it in any small way I can. I started out by donating my time to the Cutthroat Chapter, working as treasurer and then as vice president — and finally president for three years. As president of the chapter, I helped fund and organize the Cheesman Canyon Restoration Project. Some CWF members helped with this project — and I want to extend my thanks to them once again. I then went on to help the Colorado State Council and eventually became the president of Colorado TU, with



PHOTOGRAPH BY JIMARK LANCE

SHARON IS ALWAYS UP FOR A GOOD DAY OF FISHING . . . and giving back to the community.

approximately 11,000 members.

When my term was up as president of Colorado Trout Unlimited, I was asked to be on the Board of Trustees for National TU. I donate approximately 10 to 15 hours per week to TU, and I am still involved in state level issues.

Q: What is the mission of Trout Unlimited?

A: Trout Unlimited is a conservation organization, whose mission is to conserve, protect and restore coldwater fisheries and their watersheds. Trout Unlimited was formed in 1959 and currently has 155,000 members nationally. Our vision is to ensure, by the next generation, that robust populations of native and wild coldwater fish once again thrive within their North American range, so that our children can enjoy healthy fisheries in their home waters.

One of the many issues we are working on in the state is trying to clean up abandoned mines, because of their adverse effect on our water resources. In Colorado we have over 7,000 abandoned mines, which are polluting our water with zinc, magnesium and many other toxic chemicals. This is affecting more than 1,600 miles of streams. Elizabeth Russell with National TU — along with many partners — is currently trying to clean up the Pennsylvania mine between Keystone and Arapahoe Basin on Peru Creek that flows into the Snake River. I am helping to organize the Snake River Watershed Foundation, which will take on the big task of maintenance and oversight after the project is completed.

Q: What is it that makes involvement in TU and other flyfishing activities fun for you?

A: Flyfishing is fun for me because you never know it all, and it keeps me humble. I get skunked from time to time just like everyone. It has taught me patience and relieves stress from my everyday life. The best part of fishing for me, though, is the many great friends I have met through the years that support me in all that I do. It is also fun for me to share the sport with others when I have the time.

Q: I understand that you are a cancer survivor. Can you tell us more?

A: Yes, I am a breast cancer survivor. I have had four surgeries over the past five years. During my recent bouts with breast cancer, I have had a great support group, not only from my immediate family, but from the flyfishing community as a whole. I have shared my cancer experience with others in the hope that it will encourage them to get the tests that they have been putting off for years, such as mammograms, et al.

Cancer has given me a new sense of urgency in many ways. It helps me prioritize each day to focus on what is most important to me. Sometimes my focus is on my 29-year-old daughter (who is enjoying flyfishing more and more all the time), or as a wife or as a daughter. Other times my focus is on my practice and my clients. And when all these priorities are satisfied for the moment, I can work on saving a stream. ♦

CLUB TRIP REPORT

ARK RIVER, APRIL 28-29, PLUS A CADDIS HATCH PHOTO ESSAY OF BROWNS CAUGHT . . .

BY DAWN DOBSON, TRIPS CO-CHAIR

We came, they hatched, we caught! The fish goddess was with us last month on our Arkansas trip! Over 55 members scattered themselves along the banks of the Arkansas River, anxiously awaiting the flutter of caddis wings. By about noon on Saturday, the river exploded with these lofty little bugs, and the fish were as excited as we were! Shouts of glee erupted as rods bent and nets were filled with fighting rainbows and feisty browns. It seemed that almost every area was occupied by female flyfishers, happily reeling in fish after fish. Our presence was known, and rumors of dozens of women flyfishers on the banks made it all the way to Denver! (A friend of mine said her brother went fishing the same weekend and was surprised at how many women now flyfish.)

The fun did not end when the hatch shut down! We had an amazing turnout for our second annual Chili Cook-off. At least 76 members and guests arrived at the Shavano Senior Center to sample 11 different chili recipes. **Jeanette Bourdon** raised the bar on presentation by carefully adorning her Buffalo Balls and Pig Tail recipe with assorted veggies and a gourmet fish carved from a brick of cheese. This prompted the chair person to note that we may have to up the ante and include food presentation in our judging criteria.

All of the recipes were delicious, but



PHOTOGRAPH BY JEN HUME

... by Jen Hume

Arlys Warfield's Havana Moon Chili took the grand prize. Greg Felt brought his traditional elk chili, and **Mary Kuchynka** went out of her way to accommodate everyone with both a hot and mild version of her recipe. All pretty much ate (and drank) their fill. As **Anita English** later commented, "It was great! I could have eaten more, but I was afraid I would explode." We hope to continue our tradition of publishing one of the recipes each month in our upcoming newsletters so that those of you who didn't enter can practice up for next year's contest!

As if the chili fiesta wasn't enough, those

who were fortunate enough to finagle an additional day off were treated to a turkey dinner hosted by our own gourmet chef **Marion Nutt**. The menu featured Jack Daniels turkey, steamed red cabbage, fabulous stuffing and a spicy cilantro-cranberry relish. As we all sat on the deck enjoying the amazing view of Salida, we lamented a few losses amongst us. **Connie Rogers** and **Lisa Timmons** had quite an episode involving keys that ended up in **Joanie McCord's** room. Another member who shall remain anonymous had an issue with missing undergarments, and our talented Trips Co-Chair **Phyllis Vinson** tied up her special

CONTINUED



PHOTOGRAPH FROM JOANIE MCCORD

... by Joanie McCord



PHOTOGRAPH BY CAROL NEVILLE

... by Connie Rogers

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Arkansas fly recipes, only to leave them neatly tucked in the box at home! This we all heard from a very friendly guy from Pennsylvania, who seemed to enjoy the women hatch as much as the fish enjoyed the caddis!

It was quite the adventure and many stories were shared at the Club meeting the following Tuesday night. For those who were unable to make it, clear out the last week in April for next year now – you don't want to miss this trip twice!! ♦



PHOTOGRAPH BY CAROL NEVILLE

... by Lisa Timmons



PHOTOGRAPH BY HARFOLD GUDMUNDSEN

... by Gloria Gudmundsen

CLUB TRIP REPORT

MAY 5 QUICK CHANGE: FROM WATERTON CANYON TO BOULDER CREEK

BY PHYLLIS VINSON, TRIPS CO-CHAIR

Due to the unusually high flows of over 1,400 cfs in Waterton Canyon, our Cinco de Mayo fishing adventure was moved to Boulder Creek between Nederland and Boulder. Mother Nature (only slightly more mysterious than Denver Water) threatened us with rain and snow but rewarded the stalwart few with only a smidgen of precipitation mixed with copious sunshine.

Dawn Blom and her guest **Carrie Bamber** fooled some of the feisty little rainbows while **Nancy Sherman** gave several fish an education. Speaking of education, **Joanie McCord** gave me some training in her active nymphing technique by spotting a fish and catching it on the first cast.

The afternoon was spent cheering each other on as we tag-teamed some risers and shared the beauty of a marvelous spring day on the Front Range. ♦

IN MEMORIAM REMEMBERING DON DAVIS

BY ARLYS WARFIELD

We were sad to learn of the unexpected passing of Don Davis, co-owner with his wife of The Great Western Fly Fishing Company in Loveland. Over the years, many Club members have frequented his fly shop and received valuable flyfishing advice from Don. **Craige Stainton** reminds us that several years ago Don acted as casting instructor at our annual CWF Clinic at the Kassler Center — with an audience of mule deer all around us. Don never missed a beat, continuing his class unaffected by the intruders.

He was a wonderful instructor and a gentleman. Plus, just this March, a group of us met in his fly shop on our way to fish the Club's inaugural trip to the Big Thompson. Don, as always, was very hospitable, giving up the majority of his shop area to a wader changing room for Club members to use. He was a good friend to CWF and will be remembered for his support and encouragement. ♦

From the Presidential Suite

Great news ... our new CWF laptop computer is here and ready to use! This is the first time CWF has purchased real "property" of this magnitude. The computer will be used at the Holiday Party, all the trade shows and at other events when deemed needed. **Janet Canaan** and **Dawn Blom** will be the keepers of the computer.

You should attend The Casting for Recovery Auction event, Thursday, May 31, if you can. It's only \$15. CWF is donating two different auction packages: Package #1 is two complimentary memberships and two CWF shirts, and Package #2 is the same but with two CWF caps instead of shirts. Now, as if that's not enough, your board has agreed to donate a complimentary membership to those who inquire about continuing their flyfishing experience after taking one of Casting For Recovery's clinics. WOW! What a board you have — aren't they AWESOME!

Speaking of awesome boards ... it is time for me to start thinking about gathering a nominating committee, since election is coming up in the fall. There are several positions that are "up for grabs" (as it were), and they are President, Secretary, Education, Newsletter, PR/Outreach, Public Events and Trips. As I said, start thinking about whom you would like to see in these positions, yourself or another member you think would be effective. It's just food for thought while you're on the streams and rivers this summer.

So, I'll see you there — on those rivers and streams, and until I do ... keep those lines tight and rod tips up (well, when you're bringing in that big one at least!).

Joanie McCord,
President

The Raffle Corner - June 2007

The Raffle items at the June meeting are really nice!! I have a Brodin net with clear plastic mesh, which is reported to be easy on the fish and easy to remove hooks. For the fly tyers we have a NICE wooden portable tying thing. It is a desktop model that has a sliding top that opens to a nice storage area for supplies and, when closed, the top has spikes for spools and such. The guy at Discount Fishing Tackle said you could put it out on the picnic table and whip up some flies. I don't tie, but I was really impressed. We have the Pat Dorsey's Fly of the Month Club entry for May, which is a Garcia's Mother's Day Caddis #16. Thanks to Pat Dorsey!

Door Prizes

The door prizes this month include a book, "A Different Angle: Fly Fishing Stories by Women," a hat, Ultimate indicators by Frog Hair, fish pen, Croakie, fishing hemostat with retractor — and from Loon Top Ride and Snake River mud (whatever that is).

LOOKING AHEAD to the July Picnic

We will have silent auctions for a 2-piece bamboo rod by D' Borer; a belly boat with accessories and a certificate for an Alaska fishing trip for two.

For more information on the Alaska trip go to www.alaska-adventures.net. The trip is valued at \$4,900 for two and includes: full service fly-in fishing lodge, Bristol Bay, Katmai National Park; Alagnak River; 8-day, 7-night lodging from Sunday to Sunday; private riverfront cabin accommodations; 8 hours fully-guided, daily fishing; jet boat rides to access three different river systems; Alaskan gourmet meals, sandwiches and shore lunches on river; designated wild and scenic river, world class trophy rainbow trout fishing, plus grayling, Dolly Varden, char, pike and five species of salmon.

You bid on the 2 for 1 certificate, and then you pay Alaska Adventures \$4,900. For example, you bid \$300, and you get a certificate for a 2 for 1 trip, then you pay the guide service the \$4,900.

If you live too far away to come to the picnic, you can bid on these silent auctions items with prior arrangements — I will have runners who will post your bid for you. Everyone will have five business days to get me a check, or it will go to the next highest bidder. Let's raise the maximum for the benefit of CWF and enjoy some good stuff.

See you soon and good luck to all! — *Karen Williams, Fundraising Chair*

SPECIAL PROJECTS

JOIN US AT THE JULY 10 FAMILY PICNIC & GEARAGE SALE

BY JANE FRANCOEN, CHAIR

- WHAT: A catered dinner ... Belly Boat Races ... Raffle ... Silent Auction
WHERE: Prospect Park, on the south side of 44th about 3/4 mile west of Kipling (44th is about a half mile south of I-70)
WHEN: July 10 around 5:00 p.m.
WHO: EVERYONE!!! CWF members, your families and friends
COST: \$3.00 CWF members (includes Member subsidy);
\$6.00 Kids under 12 (includes Member subsidy);
\$9.00 for Non-members

AND ... of course ... THE GEARAGE SALE!

The annual CWF Gearage Sale is a good opportunity to buy or sell members' used fishing gear. Bring your useable boots, waders, rods, reels, et al.— with selling price attached — and we will provide the buyers!

PAYMENT DEADLINE: Monday, July 2nd

Send checks payable to CWF, and MAIL TO: Jane Francoen, 716 S. Emerson St., Denver, CO 80209

UNTIL THEN ... Happy Fishing!

CWF Board of Directors 2007

President

Joanie McCord
scottishfisher@comcast.net

Vice President

Jody Yehle
jyehle@ricochet.com

Secretary

Nancy Sherman
anglers@peoplepc.com

Treasurer

Betty Peterson
betty@bettypeterson.com

Education

Anita English
SB33MVP@aol.com

Fundraising/Raffles

Karen Williams
karenwilliam@comcast.net

Membership

Ellie Reiser
elliejr@earthlink.net

Newsletter Editor

Arlys Warfield
arlys@earthlink.net

Public Events

Dawn Blom
dawnblom@comcast.net

PR-Outreach

Janet Canaan
jcanaan@jcanaan.com

Special Projects

Jane Francoen
fisher.jane@hotmail.com

Trips

Dawn Dobson
dobsond@earthlink.net
Phyllis Vinson
PHYLV@compuserve.com

Newsletter

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Editor and Publisher Arlys Warfield

Proofreaders Janet Canaan,
Connie Rogers, Miki Seeley,
Nancy Sherman

Production

Jane Francoen, Carol Stegink
Printer Alpha Graphics, Denver

Website

www.colowomenflyfishers.org

cwftalk

Email subscription questions to
arlys@earthlink.net

Membership Roster

Email roster corrections to
elliejr@earthlink.net

CWF CASTING CLINIC APPLICATION

Dan Wright will be offering casting lessons again this summer. Dan is a Master Certified Federation of Fly Fishers Casting Instructor and has taught casting for over 15 years. His style of teaching makes the learning fun, and the size of the classes (4-6) makes it possible for him to give each student personal attention. All sessions will be held at Highlands Heritage Park, near C-470 and Quebec, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The cost will be \$30 per class and a minimum of four participants will be needed to hold a class. Check the deadlines for each class. You will receive a phone call or an email to confirm your registration, and be given directions to the location. Get your spot reserved today!

Complete form and mail registration and check to: CWF Casting Clinic:
c/o Anita English, 16234 W 71st Pl., Arvada, CO 80007.
Questions? Contact Anita at 303-424-2354 or email: sb33mvp@aol.com

Name: _____ Eve Phone: _____
Address: _____ Other Phone: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Email: _____

Schedule for Clinics to be held at Highlands Heritage Park

- ___ June 21 Thu. Beginners: Basics + loop & line control Reg. Deadline June 14
 - ___ July 12 Thu. Intermediates: Loop & line control + some dbl haul . . Reg. Deadline July 5
 - ___ Aug. 16 Thu. Double Haul: Principles/fundamentals Reg. Deadline Aug. 9
- ___ Sign me up! (\$30 each session) Total CHECK Enclosed: \$ _____ (payable to CWF) Please note: Classes will fill on first come, first served basis. Registration will be confirmed via email and/or telephone. Directions will be given at that time.

LAST CAST

"Heaven is under our feet as well as over our heads."

HENRY DAVID THOREAU

CWF 2007 MEMBERSHIP

Membership for Calendar Year (January - December)

___ RENEWAL
___ NEW MEMBER (over 18? yes___ no ___)

Enclose a check for \$25 made payable to Colorado Women Flyfishers.

Name: _____
Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____
Email: _____ Cell Phone: _____

The Club does not sell or trade or give away members' contact information to outside vendors; however, rosters are printed quarterly for members' personal use only.

Flyfishing Ability: (circle one) Professional Advanced Intermediate Beginner

I would like to serve on the following committees: (Circle as many as you like!)

- | | | | |
|-------------|------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Programs | Membership | Special Projects | Education |
| Outreach/PR | Newsletter | Raffles/Funding | Trips Public Events |

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THIS ISSUE:

LOOK FOR HOW TO FISH THE MUDDY SEASON

AND NATIONAL FLY FISHING CHAMPIONSHIPS

THE RAFFLE CORNER, PLUS

GUIDING LIGHTS - PART SIX AND LOTS MORE!

JULY PICNIC The annual Club family picnic will be held Tuesday, July 10 at Prospect Park. All members and their friends and family are invited. Bennett's Bar-B-Que will again cater the affair. Check your closets for useable fishing and camping items for the Gearage Sale. See page 12 for details.