



COLORADO WOMEN FLYFISHERS.

A sociable club for women who fly fish

August 2009 Vol. XIII, No. 8

AUGUST MEETING

DATE:

Tuesday, August 4, 2009

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 August meeting...

DOG POOP Canine First Aid Discussions

Another monthly meeting with a program that has nothing to do with flyfishing? But beauty is always in the eye of the beholder: a brookie is a minnow to some and a wily catch to others.

This month's presentation will be conducted by the American Red Cross and covers some of the basics of Dog First Aid.

Many Club members own dogs and take their furry companions with them on fishing trips. Just like human counterparts, dogs can experience a medical emergency, such as a hook in some body part, cuts, heat exhaustion or hypothermia from cold water.

If you have a canine fishing bud, come learn how to recognize and treat common medical emergencies. Learn to recognize and treat common problems — and what to stock in a canine First Aid Kit. — *Mary Manka, V. P. and Program Chair*

CFW Calendar

- Aug. 4 CWF Monthly Meeting
- Aug. 8 Club Day Trip, The
Big Thompson River
- Aug. 11 CWF Board Meeting
- Aug. 15 CWF River Clean-up
at Deckers
- Aug. 22-23 . . Club Weekend Trip,
The Conejos River
- Aug. 26-28 . . The America Cup
- Aug. 29-30 . . Bass Pro Brat Fest

Membership Roster Update

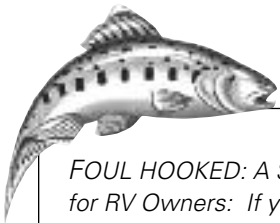
The CWF online roster has been updated. For questions regarding the website, contact Deb Nelson. For all roster changes, please contact Maria R. Landis, Membership Director.

CFW Archives

Please send any published articles featuring CWF, or written by a CWF member, to Club Secretary Jody Yehle, Keeper of the CWF Archives.

Welcome New Members

- Margery McKnight Evergreen
 - Carol Griffin Evergreen
 - Kiu Tedora Englewood
- 59 New Members Enrolled in 2009.



FOUL HOOKED: A Safety Note for RV Owners: If you own an RV with a rear-mounted spare tire, be sure your tire is securely attached to its mount and the mount to the rear bumper. My car and I recently were nearly taken out by a wildly bouncing spare tire and part of its mount on I-70. At 65 mph it's a miracle that several vehicles did not wreck trying to avoid the unpredictably bouncing tire. — Nancy Sherman

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ARLYS WARFIELD

BACK CAST

FOOD, FUN AND FISH TOSS AT THE JULY PICNIC

BY MARION ROPER, SPECIAL PROJECTS DIRECTOR

Our annual CWF picnic was held on July 7th at Prospect Park with the weather cooperating beautifully — no lightning, no thunder, no rainstorms. Around 50 members and guests attended and enjoyed a delicious barbeque dinner catered by M & D Barbeque. Before and after dinner, Craige Stainton and Chris Juvan delighted us with games of fish toss and bingo. Bingo was especially successful since so many people won prizes.

"M&D Barbeque is s-o-o-o very good. Try their ribs next time."

JANET LOPEZ

Special thanks go to Barbara Kelly and Jeanne Sonderup for their help with the picnic setup, Mary Price with the cleanup, Jane Franzen with the Gearage Sale and Craige and Chris for the games. ■

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GOOD PICKINS' The CWF Gearage Sale brought a lot of interest and cash for the sellers!



GOOD EATS The brisket, chicken, beans and slaw was packing 'em in at the buffet table.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ARLYS WARFIELD



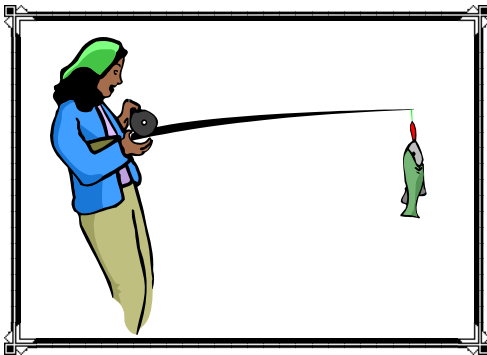
HAPPY DINERS Everyone seemed pleased with their fare from M&D Barbeque.



FISH TOSS ACTION Kiko El shows her form.

GO FISH THE BIG THOMPSON
AUGUST 8 DAY TRIP TO ROCKY MOUNTAIN NAT'L PARK
BY ANITA ENGLISH, TRIPS DIRECTOR

Spectacular scenery, wildlife and great fishing are the attraction to come on this trip. The Big Thompson River meanders through Moraine Park and is filled with brookies, brown trout and the beautiful greenback cutthroat. A small rod and a box of attractor patterns are the ticket here.



Directions

From Denver, take I-25 north to exit 243. Go west on Highway 66. Go through the town of Lyons. You will come to a T. Take a right hand turn. This is Highway 36. It takes you into Estes Park. Kirks Fly Shop is on the left hand side of the street, a few doors down from the Dairy Queen and across from the City Hall. From Kirks continue west, following signs to the Beaver Meadows entrance into the park. Take the first left (Bear Lake Road) and go about 1.5

miles following the signs to Moraine Park. Turn right going toward Moraine Park Campground. There is parking all along the road.

Meeting Place

We will meet at Kirks Fly Shop at 8:30 a.m. and leave no later than 9:00 a.m.

Park Fee

The fee per car is \$20. Golden Age members get in free. By meeting at Kirks, we can car-pool into the park and share the cost.

What to Bring

3-5wt. rod, 5x leader and 4 and 5x tippet.

Flies: Pheasant Tails, Copper Johns, Stimis, Ants, Parachute Adams, Caddis dries and larvae. Kirk will fill us in on what is working well on the river.

The Greenbacks are waiting for you.

Questions?

Please call Anita English at 303-424-2354 or email at sb33mvp@aol.com. ■

**CWF South Platte
River Clean-up
Set for August 15**

Our annual River Cleanup will be on Saturday, August 15th. We are cleaning the South Platte River by Deckers. We will meet at 8:30 a.m. in the parking lot behind the Flies & Lies Fishing Shop, where we have been allowed use of the meeting hall by Denver Water for the bathroom facilities and lunch.

We will begin our river cleaning around 9:00 a.m. and work until noon. We will break for lunch, provided by CWF, at the meeting hall. A guest speaker from Denver Water will discuss water issues in the Deckers/Cheesman areas. After lunch members will be free to fish for the afternoon, if they wish.

This year we plan to have T-shirts for those members who participate in our river cleanup. There may be a minimal cost of \$5 per shirt, but more information will be announced at our August meeting. This is our Club's main activity to give back to the community and help improve the fishing environment. We really need everyone's involvement in this project. — *Marion Roper, Special Projects Director*

GO FISH THE CONEJOS RIVER
AUGUST 22-23 WEEKEND TRIP TO ANTONITO, CO
BY CONNIE ROGERS, TRIP COORDINATOR

Come one, come all to one of the last great barely-discovered rivers to fish in Colorado. The Conejos River is located about a 5 hour drive from Denver, but it is well worth taking that extra day off work to get there.

The Conejos River is a tributary of the Rio Grande, with its headwaters in the South San Juan Wilderness Area of the Rio Grande National Forest. It is dammed in only one place, forming Platoro Reservoir (at 10,030 feet, the highest reservoir in the nation). Guidebooks have noted that large browns and rainbows are found in the lake, as well as some kokanee, but Platoro Reservoir fished best just after ice-out.

Above the Reservoir

Above the reservoir, the Conejos is a small, high-country freestone river containing some nice-sized browns and Rio Grande cutthroat trout. A mile or so above the reservoir, the river separates into its three headwaters forks: the North Fork, the Middle Fork and El Rio Azul.

Below Platoro, the river runs for over 60 miles before joining the Rio Grande just north of Antonito. In its travels, the Conejos traverses a canyon, where it runs through

pocket water and pools, and then opens into a high mountain valley with lots of meanders and riffle water. In short, there is any kind of water you might like to fish in one of the most beautiful and least populated areas of the state.

Public Access

There is good public access to most of the river. Colorado State Highway 17 runs alongside the river from Antonito to the junction with Forest Road 250. It is another 25 miles or so up Forest Road 250 to Platoro Reservoir. The road ends at a parking lot just a few miles above Platoro.

"There is any kind of water you might like to fish in one of the most beautiful and least populated areas of the state."

CONNIE ROGERS

leads up to the confluence of the three forks of the Conejos. Various other trails lead from Three Forks further into the high country where several glacial lakes are reputed to have some very nice fishing for those will-

ing to make the long hike or to stay overnight in the backcountry.

Directly above Platoro Reservoir the Conejos feels canyon-like, with lots of pockets. And, above the canyon, the river runs through open meadows with runs, riffles and cut banks — and some surprisingly large pools. There are several high mountain lakes in the area, so if you are up for a rig-

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PHOTOGRAPHS FROM CONNIE ROGERS

THE CONEJOS RIVER Riffles and pools sweep through the high mountain valley.

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

orous hike and enjoy lake fishing, bring your belly boat.

Saturday Night Potluck

Club members Debby Ratliff and Diane Denman have offered to host a potluck supper on Saturday night at their home in the Bear Creek subdivision along the Conejos River. Arrive about 6 p.m.

Reservations: E-mail me (connie.rogers@comcast.net) or Debby Ratliff (deborar@aol.com) for directions and to let us know how many will be coming. We will post further details on *CWFTalk* in early August.

Fishing in August

Mid-August flows are usually low and clear. The fishing this time of year gets very technical, with longer, accurate casts and a stealthy approach essential to getting any looks from the browns, rainbows and cutthroats. But last year the Green Drakes hatched most of the summer. The four miles upriver from Aspen Glade is flyfishing only, wild trout water.

Gear to Bring

4 or 5 wt. rod. 4 and 5x leaders, with 5 and 6x tippet. **Flies:** Green Drakes, PMDs, Caddis, Stimulators and Pheasant Tails.

Area Fly Shops

There are two fly shops along the river: Fox Creek Store and Flyshop (www.foxcreekstore.com), home of the "chickenfoot" form of dominos; and Conejos River Anglers (www.conejosriveranglers.com), also offering guided fishing plus cabin rentals.

How to Get There

The fishable parts of the Conejos River start about 17 miles west of Antonito along Highway 17. Antonito is 34 miles south of Alamosa on US 285 in the lower part of the San Luis Valley. It is about a 5 hour drive from Denver, 1 hour from Taos, NM and about 2 hours from Santa Fe. From Denver, take I-25 south to Walsenberg, then head west on US 160 to Alamosa. From Alamosa go south on US 285, then west on Highway 17.

Where to Eat

There are few restaurants: A good place to eat dinner is Conejos Ranch (www.conejosranch.com), which is conveniently between Mogote and Aspen Glade campgrounds, and also has cabins. In Antonito, Dos Hermanos and Dutch Mill are decent restaurants. Fox Creek Store now has a pretty good supply of grocery staples like milk, eggs, beer, etc.

Where to Stay

There are no hotels to speak of in the area. There is one B&B in Antonito (River's Inn & Swiss Cottage B&B, www.antonitobedandbreakfast.com), but most of the accommodations along the river are rustic cabins and campgrounds: Twin River Cabins & RV Park (www.twnrvrs.com); Conejos Cabins (www.conejoscabins.com); Cottonwood Meadows (719-376-5660); Conejos River Campground (719-376-5943).

There are also National Forest campgrounds at Mix Lake, Lake Fork, Conejos, Spectacle Lake, Elk Creek, Trujillo Meadows, Aspen Glade and Mogote. For specific facilities at each campground, go to www.fs.fed.us/r2/riogrande/recreation/campgrounds.pdf.

Many Club members are camping at Aspen Glade — the river runs through it. ■

ANITA'S SNEAK PEEKS

THE SAN JUAN RIVER Below Navajo Reservoir, NM Weekend Trip: September 12-13

The San Juan River below Navajo Dam is a "must" kind of river. You must use lighter tippet, you must use tiny flies, you must cast accurately, you must use stealth, you must use polarized glasses to sight the fish. And, you must be able to handle rejection. These fish can break your heart! But, figuring out the riddle of hooking up these fish is highly rewarding.

Accommodations

Make your reservations soon. Abe's Motel and Flyshop Tel: 505-632-2194, www.sanjuanriver.com; Ayala's Lodge Tel: 505-634-2925 Ayalaslodge@aol.com; Archuleta RV Park Tel: 505-632-7783; Cottonwood CG, Navajo Lake State Park www.newmexico.reserveworld.com.

THE EAGLE RIVER Eagle, Colorado

Day Trip: Saturday, September 26

The Eagle River got its name from the Ute Indians. They say it has as many tributaries as there are feathers in an eagle's tail. It also has many access points along the 36 miles of river from Minturn to the confluence with the Colorado. Fall fishing is what it's all about. Don't miss this one.

Look for more info in the next newsletter.

MORE FROM THE WOMEN'S FLYFISHING WEEKEND PHOTO ALBUM



PHOTOGRAPH BY ANITA ENGLISH

DIANE'S BIG BASS And we thought there were only stockers in the DOW pond at Waterton Canyon!

▼ Please tell us if you would prefer receiving your newsletter by email or printed version. Go to the following link to let us know your preference: ▼

<https://www.justsurvey.me/TakeSurvey.aspx?s=49A1AD9347F3D94112790B36E58D93F2>.

The link is also on the first page of the Member's Only section of the CWF website.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?
TRACKING JEAN WILLIAMS TO TETON VALLEY, WY
 BY CAROL NEVILLE

My husband's and my summer odyssey from the Green River in Utah on through Idaho and Montana allowed for a side trip into Jackson, WY to visit long-time friend and CWF founder Jean Williams. Jean was the ultimate tour guide and gracious hostess. She gave us a guided tour of the spectacular Teton Valley, including its history, wildlife and some of the unique geologic sites.

Due to her recent hand surgery, we did not float the Snake River, but we did wade fish together on a tributary. Hungry Snake River cutthroats eagerly rose to a variety of foam flies, amid the Caddis and little Yellow Sally stoneflies flying around.

Jean's most important news is, of course, her coming marriage to Paul Bruun. An innovative and creative flyfisher since boyhood, his flyfishing life has intersected with most of the other great names in the sport. He is a prolific writer and something of a celebrity in Jackson. So much so that there is even a boulevard named for him.

Jean and Paul are a delightful couple, due to be married August 8. Blessings to them! ■



PHOTOGRAPH BY PHIL HORTON

BOSOM BUDDIES Jean and Carol connect after several years apart.

If you are interested in following the journey my husband Phil Horton and I are taking this summer, read my blog at <http://apps.flyfishcafe.com/Blog>



PHOTOGRAPH BY CAROL NEVILLE

A BUSMAN'S HOLIDAY ON THE RIVER Jean selects a fly for the first cast.



PHOTOGRAPH BY CAROL NEVILLE

LIKE RIDING A BIKE Jean fishing a tributary to the Snake River.



PHOTOGRAPH BY CAROL NEVILLE

THE HAPPY COUPLE Jean and Paul Bruun

MORE FRIENDS ARE MET ON THE ROAD

I began my odyssey in June by traveling to see Nancy and Steve Turley in Fruita on my way north to work a few weeks at Trout Creek Flies in Dutch John. I also renewed contact with Nancy Burdette, a CWF member who used to live in Steamboat Springs, now in Grand Junction. She later came up to Dutch John with a friend (Phyllis Pool from GJ) and fished the Green with me. — *Carol Neville*



PHOTOGRAPH BY STEVE TURLEY

TWOSOME Nancy Rutherford Turley and Carol in Fruita, CO.



PHOTOGRAPH BY PHIL HORTON

THREESOME Nancy Burdette, Phyllis Pool and Carol in Utah.

BOARD ELECTIONS 09 COWGIRL UP, LADIES

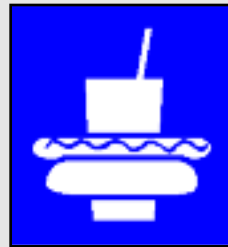
BY DAWN BLOM, NOMINATIONS CHAIR

CWF IS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD WOMEN. IN OCTOBER we will be conducting elections for several Board of Directors' positions. Those positions include President, Secretary, Education, Fundraising, Newsletter Editor, Public Events and Trips.

Brief job descriptions were posted in our July newsletter and are also available on the CWF website on the Members Only page under By-Laws. You can also contact the current Director to get more information. The Directors not running for re-election are Anita English, Trips; Jody Yehle, Secretary; Arlys Warfield, Newsletter Editor. The Fundraising position has been vacant since January, so that is also available as a one-year term versus two for all other positions.

Please contact me to nominate yourself or another member, and look on CWFTalk@googlegroups for more information about specific board member positions. ■

The Bass Pro Shop Brats and Dogs Alert



CWF will be working the grill outside of Bass Pro Shops on August 29 - 30 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and we need your help! Email me at brown-troutnlabs@gmail.com to get your name on the volunteer list for one or both days. — *Dawn Blom, Public Events Director*

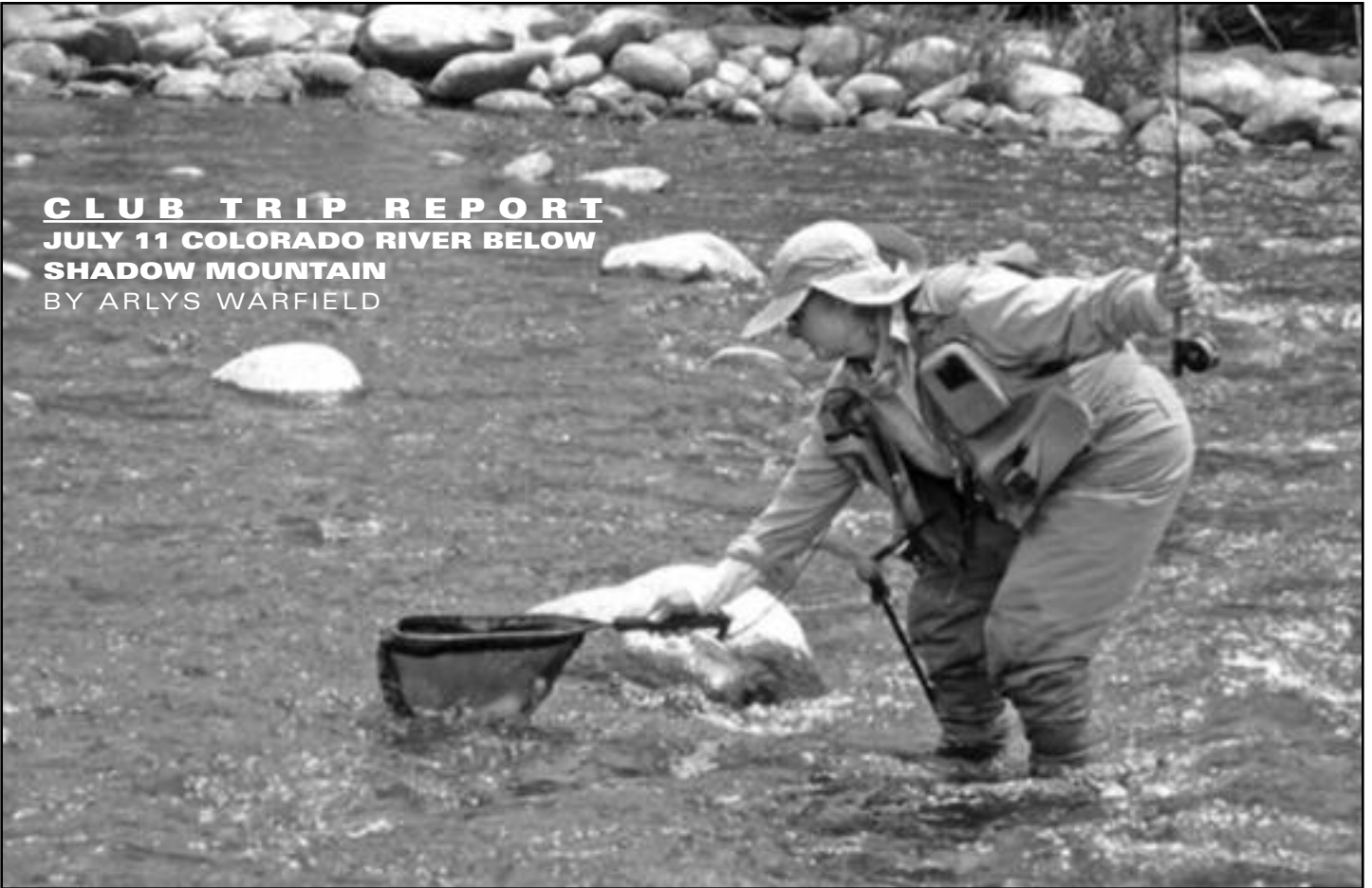
The America Cup CWF Fields 2-Member Team

BY SANDY WRIGHT

Due to the sagging economy, there was a lack of response for entries for the August 26-28 America Cup. Therefore, the format has changed. The new format will be two-person teams, and teams can fish anywhere and any way they want! Teams will meet at Lake Dillon Marina at 7 a.m. on Wednesday, the 26th, pick up their controller and take off fishing anywhere they want, as long as they return by 5:30 p.m. each day!! Each team will fish with the controller, who will be there to measure all fish!

Due to the format change, there will be no CWF women's team of five. There will be one team consisting of Janet Lopez and me! If anyone knows of any hotspots near Silverthorne, Frisco and Dillon or surrounding areas — and if they are willing to share them with us — they can email me (flyfishqueen@msn.com), and I will get in touch with them! I am currently researching areas to fish!

There is still time to sign up to be a controller. You will spend the day with anglers, and you could also learn a lot of new fishing techniques! If you are interested in signing up as a controller please contact dpehle@gmail.com. ■



CLUB TRIP REPORT
JULY 11 COLORADO RIVER BELOW
SHADOW MOUNTAIN
BY ARLYS WARFIELD

TRIPS DIRECTOR SCORES ONE Anita English carefully nets her first fish of the day — a nice 15-inch brown.

This was the perfect Club day trip. Two hours from Denver Metro, low water flow (50 cfs), great dry fly fishing, excellent deep hole nymphing (Phyllis probably had the only one on the river), excellent for those looking for a 30-, 40-, 50-fish day. And it had easy access to Ian's Bakery in Granby (it was simple to spot those who had stopped off on their way to the river: their axles were sagging as they drove into the parking lot).

CWF took over the mile+ river, even though the beautiful weather enticed vacationers to come and fish — and film the wildflower display. By my guess, there were over 25 members and guests fishing. We were pleased to see so many new members take part in the fun. Storm clouds didn't drive us off the river until late in the day. But by that time, members had had their fill of 6-inch Hofer rainbows and an assortment of large cuttbows, rainbows and browns. ■



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ARLYS WARFIELD

TAKE THAT! Diane Kyncl shows her prowess at catching the big ones in the (very) rocky mountain river.



PARKING LOT SOCIAL Fran Sturgis, Anita English and Phyllis Vinson (both hidden), Diane Kyncl, Marley, Janet Lopez, Joanne Sondock and Kellie Heatherly discuss the day's fish count and wildlife sightings.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ARLYS WARFIELD

PHYLLIS' FIND She pulls dozens from a big hole — thanks, Joanne!



COWGIRL UP! Cathy Poirier saddles up for the river!

CLUB TRIP REPORT

JUNE 13-14 WEEKEND TRIP TO RED FEATHER LAKES

BY NANCY SHERMAN, TRIP COORDINATOR

What a great turnout for the Club's second weekend trip of the year! Not counting spouses, children and dogs, there were 20 members, with 16 camping at the area's three campgrounds, three staying at a private cabin and one for the day on Saturday. The weather mostly cooperated with some thunderstorm activity from Thursday through Saturday.

There tended to be an ever-present wind each day starting midmorning and lasting until near sunset. It provided some challenges for anglers fishing from shore and especially those in float tubes. Fish were caught on the surface and below with a variety of flies. Most of us connected on Saturday at West Lake — and it was an impressive flotilla of float tubes. ■



MARIA'S FIRST FISH CAUGHT IN A BELLY BOAT.

Get out the magnifying glass (your smile is bigger than the fish, Maria)!

PHOTOGRAPH BY ANITA ENGLISH



PHOTOGRAPH BY DEBBIE SEIDEN

THE UNION TUBE CREW ON A BREAK Sandy Wright, Janet Lopez, Joanie McCord, Nancy Sherman, Linus, Fran Sturgis and Jane Francen — member Debbie Seiden took the picture.

CWF Board of Directors 2009

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scottishfisher@comcast.net

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Vacant

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Newsletter

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Maria R. Landis at
rscordots@yahoo.com

PHISH PHOTO PHUN

PHOTOGRAPH FROM DONNA KEEFOVER



Donna Keefover caught this guy while drifting the Gunnison on Memorial Day weekend.

LAST CAST

“To put it bluntly, I am not the type who wants to go back to the land; I am the type who wants to go back to the motel.”

FRAN LEBOWITZ

CWF 2009 MEMBERSHIP

Membership for Calendar Year (January - December)

___ RENEWAL (Member since ___)

Enclose a check for \$30 made payable to Colorado Women Flyfishers. Members are required to sign an Acknowledgment of Risk and Release of Liability Form as a condition of membership.

___ NEW MEMBER (over 18? yes___ no ___)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Other Phone [specify CELL (c) or WORK (w)]: _____

The Club does not sell or trade or give away members' contact information to outside vendors. Rosters are printed 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!) Education Membership

Programs Special Projects Public Events Outreach/PR Newsletter Raffles/Funding Trips

*** MAIL TO COLORADO WOMEN FLYFISHERS, P. O. BOX 101137, DENVER, CO 80250 - 1137**

*** Enclose Signed Acknowledgment of Risk and Release of Liability Form.**

Contact Maria R. Landis, Membership Director, at rscordots@yahoo.com for copy.



COLORADO WOMEN FLYFISHERS, INC.

www.colowomenflyfishers.org

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Address Correction Requested

First Class Mail

IN THIS ISSUE

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The Conejos River, **SNEAK PEEKS** to
The San Juan River **and** The Eagle River.
Plus: Trip Reports, Annual River Clean-up,
and . . . much more.