

COLORADO WOMEN FLYFISHERS.®

A sociable club for women who fly fish

May 2010 Vol. XIV, No. 5

MAY MEETING

DATE:

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

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 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 May meeting...

MOTHER'S DAY CADDIS HATCH

with Greg Felt

Hurray for May! The time has come for the caddis hatch, and our much-anticipated annual CWF trip to Salida.

Greg Felt from ArkAnglers will be here to provide us with tips on where to fish, what equipment to bring, and which flies are hot. Take advantage of Greg's wisdom and get ready to catch fish!

This is a fun and information-filled evening. If you only attend one meeting a year, make it this one.

Greg has been a long-time friend of the Colorado Women Flyfishers, and Chili Cook-off participant on our annual trip to Salida. – *Mary Manka, V. P. and Program Chair*

CWF Calendar

May 4 Club Meeting
May 8 - 9Arkansas River, Salida, CO
May 11Club Board Meeting
May 15Catamount Reservoirs. Day
Trip, Pikes Peak, CO
May 22 - 23 . . .Women's Flyfishing
Weekend

Please Note: CWF Membership runs on a calendar year — January to December, regardless of the month joined.

Welcome New Members

Julie WinnGunnison
• 19 New Members Enrolled in 2010



FOUL HOOKED: Studies on the artist Christo's "Over the River" project are nearing conclusion.

The current Environmental Impact Study is set for draft release in June, when the BLM will be open to public opinion on the project for a very short time.

The opinion on the environmental impact is varying, depending on whether you are in favor of the project, or not; however, one opinion without dispute is the effect the project will have on accessibility and fishing in the Arkansas River for up to 3 years during construction.

Another issue without dispute is the amount of tourism the project will draw to the area, once it is completed.

If you would like to find out more, there are three links to the project that can be found at:

*www.christosrealplan.org,
www.roarcolorado.org, and
www.blm.gov/co/st/en/rgfo/planning/otr.html*

—Ed.

BACK CAST

APRIL MEETING FISHING LAKES WITH ROB KOLANDA

BY FELICIA OLSEN

April's meeting was a presentation on fly fishing lakes with Rob Kolanda. I am aware that many of our members don't care to fish lakes, for various reasons, but if being unsuccessful is one of them, the tips from Rob could certainly improve that. Both Rob and Riley Cotter (Feb. meeting) agree that the Europeans have refined fishing techniques that work quite well here in Colorado.

Colorado's lakes will fall into two categories: alpine lakes (above 9000 ft. ele.) and high alkaline lakes (7000- 9000 ft. ele.). Fish from shore on either type of lake. Choose wind-blown banks with southern exposure. The high winds prevent heavy snow build-up on the lake during the winter months, allowing more sunlight to penetrate the water. Sunlight combined with shallow water encourages plant growth and insect hatches.

Some characteristics of alpine lakes are: low sunlight, less plant growth, rock substrate bottom, no springs or tributaries, less food (slower fish growth).

Fishing season on alpine lakes is typically very brief — usually July through mid-September. Thick ice and heavy snow will block available sunlight in the winter months and could result in heavy winterkill and devastate an alpine lake. Plant growth is stopped and decomposing plant life will consume what oxygen is available; the fish will die. Catch and release is a good practice in alpine lakes. It is possible that as few as four or five anglers taking bag limits can devastate an alpine lake in one season.

Some characteristics of high alkaline lakes are: more plant growth, soft bottoms, abundant oxygen and food, rapid fish growth, presence of springs and tributaries.

It is the springs and tributaries feeding the lower elevation lakes that create the higher alkaline conditions. Springs and tributaries also bring scuds. Fish who have greater food sources tend to be more selective eaters, and often are much larger than alpine fish. These fish will attain maximum growth in four to five years.

Rob Kolanda is the Sales Manager for Front Range Anglers ■

Equipment and Flies

Alpine lakes

8.5 to 9 foot, 4 - 5 wt. rod

9' leaders between 6x and 3x tippet

Floating line, intermediate line, type III sinking line

Terrestrial flies are very important in alpine fishing; ants, beetles, hoppers and moths

Elk Hair and Stimulator Caddis; if you have no intimate knowledge of an area, try a PMX — "it looks like everything."

High Alkaline Lakes

9 - 10 foot, 5 - 7 wt. rod

9' leaders, and tippet between 5x and 0x

Floating line, intermediate line, sink tip line through rating V

Scuds, grey to olive, orange during molt; Damsel Nymph; Olive and Blue Damsel Adult;

Midge Pupa and Adult, Calibaetis Nymph and Adult.

A Trip Coordinator is *urgently* needed for the Catamount Reservoirs Day Trip. Our Trips Director, Amy Slaughter, will be out of town and unable to attend. It is quite simple. Amy will email you a list of members who have signed up to go. Then you check people off of the list, obtain a head count, and write a short summary of the trip. Do not worry if you don't write — Just call or email Amy with the details and she will write the trip report for you! *If a Trip Coordinator is not found, this trip will be cancelled.*

This is your chance to be a club hero, and help Amy at the same time! You can reach Amy at home: 303-823-9618; cell 303-817-3272; email home2paws@mind-spring.com

GO FISH THE ARKANSAS RIVER
MAY 8 - 9 THIS IS THE CWF'S FAVORITE TRIP OF THE YEAR
 BY AMY SLAUGHTER

We will know soon if we will be fortunate enough to experience the annual caddis hatch. This is a very popular feeding time for the fish, and it has proven to be a great training ground for catching them on dry flies. The caddis should be ready, and if the river does not get washed out we will have a wonderful time catching fish.

Float and wade trips available

Greg Felt of ArkAnglers will be with us at the May meeting to offer tips on fishing the river. You can choose a full or half-day wade trip, a full or half-day float trip, or a combination of the two. The trips are on private property, less heavily fished than the public waters. Trips include great instruction by guides who are very familiar with the water. The prices are the same as last year

Wade Fishing Half-Day:	2:1 Client/Guide Ratio	\$105/person
	1:1	\$165/person
Wade Fishing Full Day	2:1	\$150/person
	1:1	\$250/person
Float Fishing Half-Day	2:1	\$125/person
	1:1	\$225/person
Float Fishing Full Day	2:1	\$180/person
	1:1	\$315/person

Trips meet at 8:00 a.m. for morning half and full days; 1:00 p.m. for half-day trips. All trips run rain or shine. Please reserve directly with ArkAnglers by calling 719-539-4223 or emailing Greg Felt via greg@arkanglers.com

Accommodations

Many club members stay at the **Super 8 Motel** — CWF has a block of rooms with a discounted rate for May 6 - 12. Room rates are:
 1 Queen or 2 Queens \$64.88
 Upgraded Exec King or Exec Double \$74.88
 The phone number is 1-719-539-6689. Make your reservations today!

There are other motels available in the Salida area if you are unable to get a room at the Super 8.

4 Seasons RV Resort

Some club members are camping / staying at the 4 Seasons RV Resort located two miles east of Salida. The phone number is 1-888-444-3626. If this is where you will be staying, stop by site # 6 and say hi to Amy.

Tackle And Flies to Bring

Bring your 4-5-6 weight rods with leaders down to 5x tippets. Be prepared for rain or snow, cold or warm weather. In other words, layers. Greg will make fly recommendations at the May meeting, but plan on bringing Blue Winged Olives and all forms of Caddis Nymphs and dries. Members will typically carry a lunch to eat on the river. Dinner is eaten at local restaurants. Some members meet at the camping area. Dinner is provided Saturday at the chili cookoff.

Saturday Night Chili Cookoff

We will have our 5th Annual Chili Cook-off at the Mount Shavano Room across the highway from the Super 8 Motel. Please volunteer to bring a pot of your favorite chili. Other members are asked to bring appetizers, sides, and desserts.

Where to Meet on Saturday and Sunday

Amy is staying at the 4 Seasons RV Resort, site #6 on the river. On Saturday and Sunday, members are welcome to meet at her site and head out to fish the public water. Plan to meet by 8:00 a.m. and depart by 8:30 a.m. We will also try to have a meeting location for those staying at the Super 8. Keep your eye on cwfTalk for other group locations.

Questions?

Call Amy Slaughter at home: 303-823-9618; cell 303-817-3272; email home2paws@mindspring.com ■



GO FISH CATAMOUNT RESERVOIRS

MAY 15 — DAY TRIP

BY AMY SLAUGHTER, TRIPS DIRECTOR

The Catamount Reservoirs are located at the base of Pikes Peak. There are two reservoirs to fish, North and South. We will attempt to hit these waters right after ice-off, which means the fish are hungry, and eager to accommodate our mission. You will want to bring a belly boat if you have one; canoes or other boats without motors are also allowed. Please remember you must have a personal flotation device for all on board and a whistle for emergencies.

Where and When to Meet

Those wanting to carpool should meet at Angler's Covey Fly Shop in Colorado Springs at 8 a.m. and depart by 8:20 a.m. The shop is located at 295 S. 21st Street, 719-471-2984. To get to the shop, go south on I-25 to Colorado Springs. Take the Cimarron/Hwy. 24 exit. There is a traffic light at the bottom of the ramp; take a right to Hwy. 24. Continue a few miles down the road to the shop, which will be on the right hand side.

From the shop, we will continue west on Hwy. 24 to Woodland Park. Turn left two miles west of Woodland Park onto Edlowe Road (CR28) and travel about three miles. Parking is at North Catamount Reservoir and access to South Catamount Reservoir is by a short hike. There is less pressure on the South Catamount Reservoir because of the walk.

Fees

It is about a 40-50 minute drive up Pikes Peak Highway to the North Slope Recreation Area. This is the only access. It is a toll road with fees of \$12.00 per person (\$40.00 for up to 5 people in one car) for the highway, and a \$4.00 park fee. During the month of May the hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

What To Bring

Come prepared for this very high elevation. Belly boating in high lakes after ice-off can be quite chilly. Be prepared for snow, rain or even lightning. Take due care if you sense a storm building, see lightning or hear thunder. Get off the lake and take shelter! Bring plenty of water, lunch and snacks. Is it advisable to be well hydrated before the trip to avoid altitude sickness.

Gear and Flies

Bring your 4 or 5 wt. rod with 9-foot 5x leaders and 4x-6x tippets. Woolly Buggers are always a great go-to fly. We will most likely encounter midge hatches so you will want a variety of subsurface flies, Dark Biot Midges, Soft-Hackle Peacock, and Soft-Hackle Hare's Ear in size 14-16. For fish feeding off the top, size 18 Parachute Adams or Griffith's Gnats are good. Callibaetis imitations are good to have, just in case the warmer weather stimulates the mayflies. ■

FUNDRAISING AND RAFFLES

APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY RAFFLES!

BY CHERYL GERLITZ, FUND RAISING DIRECTOR

For CWF members, May means going back to Salida for a weekend of fishing the Mother's Day Caddis Hatch! It's the trip newbies hear about from day one, and it's the trip veterans have so many stories and fond memories of, year after year.

As the Fundraising Director, I felt it was an appropriate time to have a good ole fashioned CWF raffle. The theme for the raffle is wrapped around our trek to Salida for the Mother's Day Caddis Hatch (MDCH). I won't ruin the surprise of telling all the specific items of the raffle; however I will tell you that Greg Felt of ArkAnglers has generously donated a half-day wade trip for two on Sunday! A few of the additional items are: fly boxes with some appropriate patterns, a 2-night stay at the Super 8, some terrific gift certificates to the local restaurants, and much more.

Be sure to bring some extra cash or your checkbook to the May meeting so you can purchase your winning ticket(s), and arrive early! I am certain you'll want to check out the raffle table before the meeting starts. You can purchase 6 tickets for \$5 or 13 for \$10.

We look forward to seeing you at the May 4th meeting! ■

SNEAK PEEKS

**CRYSTAL LAKE
UPPER ARKANSAS
RIVER**

**Leadville, Colorado
Day Trip- June 5**

This will be a day trip, but some members are planning on making a weekend of it. Crystal Lake is located just south of Leadville at 10,500 feet. The shoreline of this lake is treeless, so fishing from shore is possible, and preferred by some.

The fish are stocked, but don't assume they are easy to catch. If lake fishing doesn't appeal to you, the Arkansas River is nearby and you can access many miles of the river at several places from Leadville to Granite.

Crystal lake is located in the valley of the Collegiate Peaks, and the views are truly incredible

**THE RIO GRANDE
RIVER**

**Creede, Colorado-
June 26-27**

At the club's January meeting, Karen Denison's captivating discussion on the joys of fishing the Rio Grande River made it a must for the 2010 schedule.

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 16-18 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. Between South Fork and Del Norte is Gold Medal water.

Camping and Lodging

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.

This is a popular tourist area and things fill up quickly — book soon. The website www.creede.com has abundant information and links on recreation, lodging, and dining, etc. —Amy Slaughter

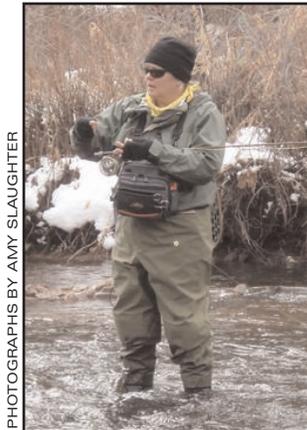
CLUB TRIP REPORT
FIRST CLUB TRIP RECEIVES A CHILLY RECEPTION
 BY AMY SLAUGHTER

There was a lot of interest in the first official trip for 2010, with over 20 members signed up. Unfortunately, Mother Nature decided to send snow and icy roads, forcing a few who attempted to attend the trip to turn back, and the rest of the no shows opted to stay indoors.

While the majority of members opted out, six of the heartiest souls would not be deterred, including new member **Jane Pratt**. Jane, you are awarded the “you go girl!” award for driving all of the way from the Fort Lupton area to attend!

The day started out cold with snow falling, but within a couple of hours the sun made an appearance, and everyone was shedding layers. We all know Colorado. If you don't like the weather, wait 10 minutes and it will change. The same held true for the fishing. It was slow getting started, but as the water warmed, so did the fish. Nymphs and a few dry flies were successful.

Despite the inclement start to the day, all had a good time. ■



PHOTOGRAPHS BY AMY SLAUGHTER

Deb Nelson ties on another one.



New Member Jane Pratt defying Mother Nature.



Craige Stainton likes bugs.

From the Presidential Suite

OK ... I've joined this flyfishing club ... now what do I do? What equipment do I need? I've heard it's all so expensive, and I don't have any extra money ... HELP!

Well, here's some help:

Fly Rod

NO, it doesn't have to be four- to five hundred dollars! You can get a nice rod for around \$120 to \$150. 5-weight, 4-piece, 8 or 9 feet is a nice average all-around rod.

Reel & Line

Figure about \$60 - \$80 for the reel. Line for about \$30 will be fine for your first summer — weight forward floating line. If you buy the reel and line together, ask the fly shop staff to put the line on the reel and ask if they'll put a butt section on it — bright color. This way you'll be able to see the end of your line and the beginning of your leader.

Boots

You can pick up a pair of boots for as little as \$50 and up through \$200. Wear thick socks, or better yet, wear your waders when you try them on — the wader sock is usually large.

Waders

You can purchase a pair of breathable waders starting around

\$80 to \$90. If you get a pair of chest waders make sure it has a belt... that belt is important in case you happen to fall in the river.

Vest

Get a vest that has lots of pockets. Borrow one of the shop's larger fly boxes and make sure it fits into a pocket or two — very important. They're about \$20 and up.

Net

Basic net ... about \$20.

Sunglasses

Polarized is best for your eyes — and to see fish in the water: \$10 to \$12, and up.

Extras, But Needed

Tippet: 1 reel each of 4x and 5x should hold you for most areas. Figure \$2.50 to \$12 (for fluorocarbon tippet)

Nippers to cut your tippet when tying on a fly — cheap. Forceps (hemostats): \$2.00 and up.

Question: Which fly shop should I go to?

Answer: Any fly shop on your side of town.

Happy shopping!

Joanie McCord, President

SPECIAL PROJECTS

2ND ANNUAL NEW MEMBER SOCIAL

BY MARION ROPER

Our 2nd annual new member social was held on April 18th, at the home of Marion Roper in Roxborough Park. We had a beautiful day.

Attendance was light, but those who came enjoyed bratwurst and hamburgers with all the trimmings, homemade apple strudel and assorted beverages.

Those attending were Pat Shepard, Charlene Warneke, Barbara Conroy, Selina Davis, Tanya Leo, Melissa Tondi, Sue Holton, Rebecca Pasquariello, Joannie McCord, Felicia Olsen and Marion Roper, plus canine members Buddy, Fletcher and Maya. ■



PHOTOGRAPH BY MARION ROPER

Another successful New Member Social.

PUBLIC EVENTS

VOLUNTEER MAY 22 - 23

BY DAWN BLOM

Colorado Women Flyfishers is teaming up with the Division of Wildlife to host the Women's Fly Fishing Weekend, an educational event geared toward non-members. Instructional classes will be held on Saturday May 22, and Buddy Fishing on Sunday May 23. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, there are a few spots left on both Saturday and Sunday. Volunteers for both days need to have at least intermediate-level skills, since they will be helping total beginners. Check out our sign up sheet on cwfTalk under the Files tab, then contact me to get your name on the list. ■

MEMBER NEWS

KIM GREEFIELD'S FLY TYING PARTY

BY KIM GREENFIELD

On a pleasant Sunday afternoon in March, a group of CWF fly-tying aficionados gathered to share tips and techniques at a pot-luck hosted by Kim Greenfield and Deb Tooley.

Beginner and intermediate students were instructed by fly-tyers who shared their favorite fly patterns including Thread Midges, Mercury Black Beauties and the ever-reliable Pheasant Tails.

The fly-tying afternoon was fun, relaxing and informative.

Thanks to all who participated and especially to the instructors and others who donated their time, skills, equipment and materials to facilitate this educational fly-tying event. ■



PHOTOGRAPH BY KIM GREENFIELD

Phyllis Vinson, Janet Lopez, and Anita English talk fly-tying.

CWF Board of Directors 2010

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PHOTOGRAPH BY FRAN STURGIS

**Sandy Wright met "Walter" at the Dream Stream on a chilly spring day.
(I'd like to meet Walter —Ed)**

LAST CAST

"Angling is extremely time consuming— That's sort of the whole point."

THOMAS MCGUANE

CWF 2010 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.

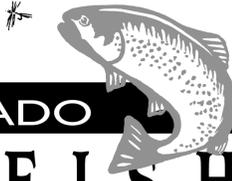
Flyfishing Ability: (circle one) Professional Advanced Intermediate Beginner

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 Aprille Hill, Membership Director, at alhill1040@aol.com for a copy.**



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IN THIS ISSUE

details on **The Mother's Day Caddis Hatch**

Sneak Peeks

And...

The raffle is back

at the May meeting!