

Riffle Talk Volume 24, Issue 3



CONSERVE, PROTECT, RESTORE



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May/June 2009

Presidents Piece

“What a pleasure it is to lead this organization!” That was my thought as I made my way home from the May membership meeting. I’d just left Trinity Brewing after a couple of celebratory brews with a few of the board members and member volunteers that helped us put on another successful Conservation Auction earlier that evening. This was just one of many successes we’ve had this year and I was feeling mighty proud of the team, our supporters and the work we’ve accomplished so far in 2009. Since we’re a little over halfway through our fiscal year I thought I’d give you a quick run down of some of the highlights of our year to date.

We have so much to be proud of I’ll have to limit this to key accomplishments. I won’t try to put them in chronological order or list them in order of importance or anything like that. I think I’ll just ramble, which is a “strength” that any one of the board members will tell you I fall back on regularly

Lets start off with the fact that we now have our native Greenback Cutthroats in the Rocky Mountain Wild Exhibit at the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo. This is the culmination of a lot of hard work and dedication by the organization and its partners. All I can Say is WOW!

Fountain Creek restoration continues at a feverish clip. We’ve completed the second of several planned projects in Shryver Park. It is a thing of beauty, a wonderfully restored resource in the middle of an urban setting. Community participation came full circle on this project with local high school kids, under the direction of the non profit organization Concrete Couch, adding the finishing touches to the new bridge. It is truly a work of art.

The Canon City River Walk restoration project is a shining example of how your board has perfected the art of working across organizational boundaries to accomplish projects and programs that require broad support, significant funding and management of diverse groups. We hope this project is the first of many where we can partner with our sister chapters in Southern Colorado to accomplish big things.

Our Fundraising efforts this year have been extraordinary given the economic challenges faced by our members and the community at large. Our Rod Raffle which is supported by local businesses and executed by the board and member volunteers was an unconditional success raising nearly \$6500.00 for the chapter (see complete story on page 2). The Conservation Auction was also a shining example of how this organization can effectively execute a

plan when the board gets support from member volunteers. This years auction raised nearly \$4000.00 in support of the CMCTU mission to Conserve, Protect and Restore cold water fisheries. (see complete story on page 2)

Activism is a touchy subject for any organization. Especially one like CMCTU where we can have many differing opinions across the organization about politics and policy. Your board is no exception to this reality. That being said I think we need to be proud of two major wins we’ve had locally by becoming a force in local affairs. The first being the significant changes we managed to effect in the implementation plan for the Gold Hill Mesa enhancement project on Fountain Creek. The second being our insistence that strong language to protect wildlife and aquatic habitat be added to the bill that authorized the Fountain Creek Watershed District. Neither of these would have happened without this organizations involvement.

Speaking of involvement, we need your continued support. Money is nice and we can’t do what we do without it. However, we need you to volunteer as well. Consider it...

Its been a great first half, lets keep up the good work!

Upcoming Speakers

June 23rd, 2009

Landon Mayer is fly fishing guide in the Colorado Springs, CO area, calling the South Platte River his home waters. Landon will be discussing “Sight Fishing for Trout”

July 28th, 2009

Curtis Mitchell will give an overview of “Water in Colorado”. It includes water supply, water rights and conservation. Curtis has 33 years in the water industry in various positions including planning, design, project management and operations.

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Jeanne Brown is 2009 Raffle Winner

CMCTU held its annual fund-raising raffle drawing at our May membership meeting. The winner was Jeanne Brown. Jeanne lives in Colorado Springs and was in attendance at the meeting. Jeanne was very excited to win this year's raffle and looks forward to putting the new gear to the test on rivers throughout the west. Congratulations to Jeanne on her win!

CMCTU and cold water fish-

eries are also big winners. Our raffle raised \$6,375.00 this year. This money will be used to conserve, protect and restore cold water fisheries

Thank you to all those who helped sell tickets by staffing our booth at the various shows and events this year. Also, a big thank you to Angler's Covey, Ghillie's Hackle & Tackle, The Peak Fly Shop, and Sportsman's Warehouse for their generous donations

that made this raffle possible.

Important notice :

In the interest of full disclosure it should be known that Jeanne Brown is the spouse of CMCTU President Jack Hunter.



TU Member and regular volunteer, Jeanne Brown receives rod raffle package from CMCTU President Jack Hunter

CMCTU Conservation Auction raises \$4000 for Cold Water Fisheries

The CMCTU annual Conservation Auction was held as part of our May membership meeting and was a great success. The Conservation Auction which is held to raise funds in support of our mission and goals is in its second year and is proving to be a member favorite.

This year we had some great items that included custom

made rods, guided trips, artwork, books and other high quality items. CMCTU thanks all of the people that donated the items that made this event possible. We also want to thank all those that purchased items at the auction

CMCTU President, Jack Hunter, was very pleased with the results of the evening which raised \$4000.00 in

funds for CMCTU. "We had a great group of folks that brought the auction together this year" said Mr. Hunter. He then went on to add that "this kind of success only comes when we have dedicated member volunteers and leadership from our board to make it happen". A Special thanks to our member volunteers, Darryl Griffin, Jeanne Brown and Don Worley.

Our greatest appreciation goes out to Dick Rock from the Peak Fly Shop for volunteering his time to be our Auctioneer again this year. "Dick's enthusiasm and careful presentation of the auction items was key to our success this year" said Mr. Hunter. "We hope to have him back again next year", he added.

Thanks to all for your Support

CMCTU partners with Catamount Institute on Parent & Youth Fishing Day

CMCTU is Partnering with the Catamount Institute this year to bring you our annual Parent and Youth Fishing Day. This day is designed to bring parents and their children over the age of 12 together in a setting where we can share information about conservation and ethics, entomology, fly tying, fly fishing and casting and other topics that support our mission.

"The day is meant to be fun and bring families together in a learning environment with the hopes of planting the seed of conservation and sports-

manship that will last a lifetime" said CMCTU President, Jack Hunter.

CMCTU is stocking the pond on the Catamount Institutes property outside Woodland Park, Colorado to ensure that kids and their parents have a fun day catching rainbow and brook trout and that they can take some fish home to eat if they care to. Mr. Hunter was quick to add that "although CMCTU generally supports and encourages a Catch and Release philosophy, our goal in this case is to teach kids real world lessons in ethics

and conservation tactics that they can apply on the ground. One of those lessons is that there is a place for harvesting wildlife. The important thing is to teach them when that's appropriate and when it's not".

"This is our first year partnering with Catamount and we look forward to a successful event and a long term partnership with the organization" Said CMCTU Director at Large, Sam Humpert. "We're excited to be able to use this great property and work with such an excellent organization"

Mr. Humpert added.

Parent Youth Fishing day is Free. It is scheduled to take place on the 20th of June, 2009 at the Catamount Institutes Property on Edlowe Road outside Woodland Park, Colorado. The event begins at 8:00 AM sharp. You can sign up for this event by contacting Barry Williams by email at gwhunter@aol.com.

More information on what to bring, what to wear and the programs being offered can be found at our website by going to www.cmctu.org.

WE NEED BOARD MEMBERS FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS

Secretary
Communications
Special Projects

WE ALSO NEED COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS FOR

Projects Committee
Development Committee

CMCTU NEEDS YOU !!!

After a very busy few months closing down the rod raffle, planning and executing the annual Conservation Auction and getting ready for our annual Parent & Youth Fishing Day, the board is very tired.

The organization managed to raise over \$10,000 dollars in support of our mission to conserve, protect and restore cold water fisheries and we also continue to advance our goal of education through our upcoming Parent & Youth Event

Members, we need your support to continue to function at this high level.

We thank outstanding volunteers like Darryl Griffin and Don Worley for their efforts. At the same time we need more participation in our projects, programs and on the board.

We currently have three open board slots for Secretary, Communications and Special Projects. We're also looking

for folks to help on committees that support fundraising and our on the ground restoration efforts.

If you're interested in joining the board or getting on one of our supporting committees, please contact Jack Hunter and the board will work to match your skills with our needs.

Jack Hunter
719-330-5475
trout-slayer@comcast.net

Message From VP of Membership Sherri Moore

One of the most important thing for any organization is to be able to contact it's members. This is important for many reasons including ensuring members can take advantage of the offerings of the organization like membership meetings and volunteer opportunities. We also need to be able to contact you to help in grass roots efforts that support TUs mission and objec-

tives. With that in mind, we'd like to make sure we have your most current information so that we know how best to contact you.

Have you recently moved? Have you changed your email address? Do you have a new phone number?

If you have, Just E-Mail samoore@mywdo.com or call

(719-686-7471) Sherri Moore with the old and new information and she will make sure that your information is current!

This is a service provided by your Membership VP who will update all of your contact information for both TU National and the Cheyenne Mountain Chapter at your request.

Have you Recently:

- Moved?
- Changed your Email Address?
- Have a new Phone Number?

If So, Just email (samoore@mywdo.com) or call (719-686-7471) Sherri Moore with the old and new information and she will make sure that your information is current!

CMCTU Partners with Elementary School Students

CMCTU helps local elementary school students help a local watershed

CMCTU Donated \$1000 to the Cheyenne Creek Conservation Club (CCCC) to help local elementary school students learn more about the local watershed and work to protect it. The CCCC lead by David Eick from Canon Elementary School also recently received the Green In Action award from Wal-Mart Corporation and a \$500.00 grant for club activities. The club plans to use the

money that CMCTU donated to help send teachers and students to River Watch training where they will learn to use techniques similar to those used by CMCTU to gain protected status for Bear and Sevrey Creeks from the Colorado Water Quality Control Commission. Mr. Eick and his students have been invited to present at one of our future membership meeting



Students from the CCCC help to protect the watershed by painting these signs on storm drains in Colorado Springs

CMCTU Projects for Spring/Summer 2009

This summer we will again be supporting Colorado Trout Unlimited with habitat restoration and other improvements at the Buffalo Peaks Ranch SWA in South Park. Most of the heavy work was completed last year, and upcoming work days will be devoted to willow planting, fencing and

access improvements. The next work day is scheduled for Saturday 13 June, so contact Terry Deaton right away if you would like to participate. Our annual Parent-Youth day is scheduled for Saturday, 20 June, at the Catamount Institute near Woodland Park and is described in another article in this newsletter.

This year's event should be an exciting one for everyone involved. We could still use a few more volunteers to help with fishing instruction and lunch preparation, so if you would like to help out, contact Sam Humpert or Terry Deaton through our chapter website.

If you would like to learn more about specific projects we have coming up or if you would like to get involved, contact Terry Deaton at 719-322-4494 or via email at tfdeaton@msn.com.

Shryver Park Restoration Completed

CMCTU and FCRC work to bring El Paso County's first kids fishing pond to Shryver Park in Manitou Springs

CMCTU, partnering with the Fountain Creek Restoration Committee, the City of Manitou Springs, the Rocky Mountain Field Institute and the Colorado Healthy Rivers Fund have completed the restoration project on Fountain Creek in Shryver Park in Manitou Springs. The project closed on June 4th, 2009. The project includes in-stream habitat restoration, the removal of fish migration barriers and the re-

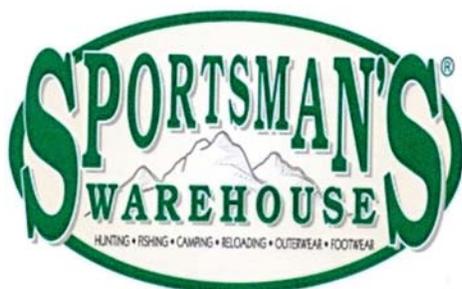
placement of the current inlet structure for the small pond in the park. Pete Gallagher from Fin-Up Habitat Consultants, the company that designed and implemented the project said last week that "CDOW will be down to stock the restored pond prior to the Kiwanis Clubs fishing day on June 13th".

CMCTU and FCRC are proposing that the pond be dedicated as the first kids only fishing

pond in El Paso County, an idea supported by the Colorado Division of Wildlife.

Members should take the time to view the project to see the great work their generous donations and volunteer efforts support.

The Colorado Healthy Rivers Fund is supported through the check off box on your Colorado Tax Return.



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Gary Almeida/Owner

Ghillie's Fly Shop and CMCTU still have our special offer. TFO is a corporate supporter of Project Healing Waters. If you purchase a TFO Project Healing Waters fly rod at Ghillie's and donate it to CMCTU, CMCTU will then donate the rod and an additional \$40 to Project Healing Waters.

The Fountain Creek Restoration Project is offering this limited edition, hand signed and numbered print from CH Rockey for a minimum donation of \$75.00. All proceeds go to support on the ground restoration efforts on Fountain Creek in Manitou Springs.

The FCRP is also offering the Acoustic Restoration CD which comes with a free beverage of your choice at Kin-Folk for a minimum donation of \$10.00. This is a compilation of music from local musicians. As with the original print above, all proceeds go to FCRPP restoration projects

Please Visit www.restorefountaincreek.org for donation details or contact Ken Jaray at 633-6620

Fountain Creek Restoration Project




"The Fountain Creek Restoration Project is wonderful. I am behind it 100 percent. Fountain Creek's importance to Manitou Springs goes back to the town's earliest days, but over the years a lot of folks have taken it for granted, so it has suffered. I'm glad to be able to help out with restoring the creek to its former beauty." Charles Rockey

Limited edition CH Rockey hand signed and numbered poster minimum FCRP donation \$75



The FCRP has produced a limited number of CD's featuring original songs from talented local musicians recorded live at Kinfolks. Minimum contribution \$10.



Checks payable to the Pikes Peak Community Foundation
 For more information contact Ken Jaray, 633-6620 or visit www.restorefountaincreek.org

A project of the Pikes Peak Community Foundation

Great holiday gifts while supporting a worthwhile project!

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Mission Statement

Cheyenne Mountain Chapter of Trout Unlimited

The Cheyenne Mountain Chapter of Trout Unlimited strives to **conserve, protect and restore** cold-water fisheries, resources and their watersheds.

THIS IS ITS SOLE MISSION. THESE GOALS ARE TROUT UNLIMITED'S REASON FOR BEING!

To achieve these goals, to participate in this mission, Members:

1. Support and promote fisheries and water-resource policies that further these goals.
2. Work actively on conservation projects, volunteering labor and expertise, often in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and Colorado Wildlife and conservation agencies.
3. Seek to influence the decisions of such agencies as well as those of wildlife commissioners, legislative committees and elected officials in general.
4. Foster ethical and sensible conservation practices among users of the cold-water resource.
5. Attend the regular membership meetings of the Cheyenne Mountain Chapter of Trout Unlimited.
6. Elect to the Chapter's Board of Directors members who will provide direction and strong leadership.
7. Contribute financially to build and maintain the Chapter's fiscal stability.

Advertising Rates:

TU Members: Advertise your used fishing equipment or other items in these pages; up to five lines, \$5.00/issue (\$1/additional line).

Commercial Rates:

Half pg. \$80/issue \$385 - 6 issues
Quarter Pg. \$30/issue \$150 - 6 issues
Eighth Pg. \$15/issue \$80 - 6 issues
Supporter Pg. \$10/issue \$50 - 6 issues

Deadline: for contributions and change of ads is the first of the month of the current newsletter printing.

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Riffle Talk is a non-profit publication of the Cheyenne Mountain Chapter of Trout Unlimited.



Riffle Talk

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of Trout Unlimited**

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We solicit reader's contributions in the form of guest editorials, fly tier's corner, letters-to-the-editor, cartoons, jokes, etc. All materials are subject to editing. We prefer text submissions in MS Word format on a CD or DVD which will not be returned. Photographs and other graphics should be of sufficient resolution and contrast that they can be printed as - is. The fastest way to contact the editor is by e-mail to trout-slayer@comcast.net. You can also send your contributions to:

Riffle Talk
Cheyenne Mountain Chapter, Trout Unlimited
P.O. Box 458

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Cheyenne Mountain Chapter
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If your membership has expired,
you can renew your membership
at WWW.TU.ORG. We
appreciate your support!!!

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Who are We:

For over 40 years, Trout Unlimited has been America's leading trout and salmon conservation organization, dedicated to conserving, protecting, and restoring cold-water fisheries and their watersheds. Whether we're planning and building stream improvement projects, working with government to protect our rivers and streams, or teaching young people the importance of protecting wild fish and their habitat, TU members are actively engaged in preserving our vital natural resources.

Your next Riffle Talk newsletter will come out in September