



Rocky Mountain Outdoors

The Newsletter of Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers



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Inside the Outdoors:

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- Pssst — a new writing opportunity awaits you, see p. 6

The Freedom to Seek Pleasure by Sallie Maurine Osnes

Spruce trees, mountain wildflowers, rivers, and the songs of birds. Does anyone understand the pleasure I experience from these things? Yes! Throughout the United States, many Master of Arts and Master of Fine Arts programs offer aspiring writers and artists the chance to develop their own programs of study. In October 2002, I began a Master of Arts program in Literature and Creative Writing with a focus on nature literature. Because I was able to design my own program, I have been able to study all the literature I can about nature and the outdoors.

Some of the literature about the Rocky Mountain region I have read is John Wesley Powell's *The Exploration of the Colorado River and Its Canyons* and Isabella L. Bird's *A Lady's Life in the Rocky Mountains*. Many other authors within my program such as John Muir and Celia Thaxter provide awesome examples of nature writing lessons that can be applied to the Rocky Mountain region. Later in 2003, I will be reading literary works such as Enos A. Mills' *The Rocky Mountain Wonderland* and Anne Zwinger's *Downcanyon*.

What about the creative writing part? As I learn valuable nature writing skills from such writers as Powell, Bird, Muir, Thaxter, Mills, and Zwinger, I will be creating my own literature about the Rocky Mountain region, New England, and hopefully other areas such as Washington state, Nebraska,

and Arizona. A creative writer can learn, from studying literature, what kinds of individual experiences of gaining personal support (such as pleasure) from the natural world have been written about frequently or in abundance. With this knowledge, a creative writer can develop writing goals to increase the kinds of experiences and types of support found in literature.

For readers who already have an appreciation for the natural world, new and unique works of literature can bring further comfort, pleasure, and motivation. For readers who lack a love or appreciation for the natural world, such readers can be introduced to past and current nature literature and new and unique works of literature might be necessary to motivate the development of an appreciative attitude. Once an appreciative attitude has developed, an individual will have more motivation towards caring use, preservation, and conservation of the natural world.

Many writing programs that allow for individual design and interdisciplinary studies can be found in Poets & Writers Magazine. Many writer workshops throughout the United States can be found in Poets & Writers magazine also. This magazine can be found at Barnes & Noble Booksellers. My program is through Vermont College of the Union Institute and University:

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From the President



John Catsis,
RMOWP President

The Sweet and the Sour

This newsletter is very personal, and has little to do with RMOWP, except that the experiences I am about to relate all occurred during the five day weekend surrounding the RMOWP board meeting.

As some of you know, Connie and I have a modest used motor home that we've been using extensively since we purchased it five years ago. During that time we experienced three blowouts and one defective fuel line. All situations, I should add, were handled safely. Besides replacing the destroyed tires, we had previously bought two more. Therefore, five of the six tires on the RV were new, or nearly new.

Before this most recent trip, I had the RV checked at my mechanic's. He said everything was fine, but warned that an inside rear tire was showing signs of wear and "should be replaced before leaving for Albuquerque." The wisdom of your President prevailed. I ignored the admonition.

On Thursday, April 10, after a beautiful drive highlighted by a leisurely tour of Petrified Forest National Park and the Painted Desert, I got back on Interstate 40 and continued the trek eastward. Ten miles later the familiar sound of yet another blowout told me I was in for a long night. Can you guess which tire it was? Yup, you are right!

It took more than two hours, and all in the dark, to make the trip into Gallup, New Mexico, never going more than 35 miles an hour. The next morning, the manager of the campground where I'd stayed directed me to a tire shop. While waiting for the replacement, I became engaged in conversation with the shop owner. For some reason I asked if he knew Lee Winslow, who had worked for me in another life, and now lived in Gallup.

"Sure do," said the shop keeper. "He died about three months ago. Fire consumed his home with him in it."

The shock of that news stayed with me the rest of the trip. Lee was a good man who found himself saddled with several personal issues. He never got over them. And as you might suspect, Lee, a smoker, also liked his liquor, especially in the last few years of his life.

The unpleasant news was replaced by a great board of directors meeting. Details on what was accomplished can be found in another part of this newsletter. I certainly wish to congratulate the Laines for locating our meeting site...the Rio Grand Nature Center. If you get a chance, do visit, especially if you wish to see or photograph wildlife.

The Sunday after the board meeting I found myself in Hillsboro, New Mexico. As I was taking pictures I heard church bells ringing and saw it was coming from a hill overlooking the village. When I approached the church I saw a gentleman watering the front yard of his home, which was located next door. We struck up a conversation and I took photos with his permission. When we finally introduced ourselves I learned that this gentleman was Ernest Springer, father of Craig and Phil!

Farther down the highway I visited Fort Bayard, site of a New Mexico state hospital and the home of a Federal Cemetery. Tears came to my eyes as I scanned the hundreds of stone markers of heroes from nearly all our wars. I even found markers of half a dozen per-

ALL ABOUT US

About RMOWP

Formed in 1973, the Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers, Inc. is a regional non-profit organization of professional and aspiring communicators, dedicated to the improvement of communicating the outdoor experience in the Rocky Mountain west.

Visit our website at mowp.org for more information about the mission, activities, and membership of RMOWP.

"Dedicated to the improvement of communicating the outdoor experience."

RMOWP Organization

Officers

President
John Catsis

Vice President
Barb Laine

Secretary
Open

Treasurer
Barb Laine

Board of Directors

Joel Evans (2003)
Jack Olson (2005)
Joy Roybal (2004)
Jon Sheppard (2004)
Helen Shields (2004)

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Lee Carr, Chairman
Kelly Gatlin
Dr. Beto Gutierrez
Jack Olson

Membership Chair

Barb Laine

Awards Chair

MaryAnn Gaug
Ron Hellbush

Scholarship Chair

Jeff Pederson

Newsletter Editor

Cindy Stone

Webmaster

Cindy Stone

Medical Advisor

Dr. Beto Gutierrez

About the Newsletter

RMOWP publishes the Rocky Mountain Outdoors newsletter bi-monthly.

Share your outdoor media, writing, & photography expertise, experiences, and achievements with fellow members. Help showcase and improve the talents of members. Keep us informed of important issues affecting the outdoor lifestyle and media profession. We'd love

to get craft improvement and any other relevant tips, articles, and photos!

Send articles and photos to the editor, Cindy Stone, at:

cindy@rmowp.org
1352 Chardonnay Dr
Richland WA 99352-7303
Fax & Phone:
509-627-4747

Next Newsletter Deadline

June 16 2003

Please send submissions to be received by this date for the July/August 2003 issue.

Cover title bar photo:

Rocky Mountain wildflowers near Mt. Evans, CO.

Photo by Cindy Stone.



Editorial Note

All URLs in the newsletter are shown without the "www." prefix to save space; unless otherwise noted, assume that you need to include the prefix when entering the URL in your browser address.

MEMBER NEWS & EVENTS

From the President

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sons who had died in 2003. I must remember to tell Connie that's where I wish to be buried.

That night I was in one of my favorite towns in all of the United States....Silver City, New Mexico. When cruising around just before sunset, I experienced another blowout. This time it was a front tire, and there would be no way to drive toward help. So I called. I reminded the person at the insurance company that we'd had problems with our RV last year, also in Silver City, and that we'd used G&G Wrecker Service. That's who was called. It was like old home week!

I replaced both front tires, even though I didn't have two. Now I've got fresh rubber everywhere around the RV. Should be good for another five years, and perhaps beyond. Kind of like RMOWP. Knock on wood.

While most of my emotions during that trip were often sad, they were balanced, if not exceeded, by the great board meeting we had had in Albuquerque. It was good to see RMOWP coming together again, and good to work with such a great group of dedicated board members.

Yes, it was truly a great weekend.

~ John Catsis, RMOWP President

Enter the Awards Competition!

The deadline
for the RMOWP Annual Awards Competition is

JUNE 13, 2003

Get your entries in and take part in the great opportunity for recognition and to share your best work with fellow members.

For contest rules and information, see last month's issue or look on the website under News/Events, Coming Events or go to rmowp.org/events.htm

Welcome New Members!

We are pleased to welcome two more new members who have recently joined RMOWP

Mary Silling of Las Cruces, New Mexico has been involved in photography both personally and professionally for many years, and has recently begun working again in this field. She has worked in producing corporate multimedia and commercial photographic catalogs, and most recently has been doing wedding photography and videos and exploring digital photography. She looks forward to getting to know other members of RMOWP and finding more opportunities to get out and enjoy outdoor photography.

Steve Schweitzer joined RMOWP this past March for the simple reason "Birds of a feather..." His primary interests are flyfishing, guitar, writing, and outdoor digital pho-

tography. His writings have appeared in The Wall Street Journal, Trout Magazine, Flyfisherman Magazine, and various newspapers and regional outdoor journals. He is co-founder and partner of The Global Fly Fisher (globalflyfisher.com) and is contributing author to "Drag-Free Drift: Presentation Techniques and Leader Design for Fly Fishers", where his illustrations and software for calculating various flyfishing leader formulas can be found. Some samples of his digital photography can be found at WindBrook-Ranch.com. Steve lives in Parker, CO in-between flyfishing trips.

Welcome, Steve and Mary. We're excited to have you as new members!

June Photo Workshop Filling Fast

Reserve your spot now! Six individuals have signed up thus far for the June 26-30 photo workshop, sponsored by RMOWP. Co-sponsors are Nikon and Kodak. Coordinator John Catsis says enrollments have occurred faster and earlier than in all the previous years of the photo workshop. Typically, people wait until the last minute before registering, but "this certainly was not the case this year," Catsis said. He predicts the workshop will see even more registrations, perhaps even achieving capacity.

The workshop, held at Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado since 1998, is open to anyone, even those who are not RMOWP members. It provides one-on-one instruction due to the class size limit of 12, and is taught by two wonderful instructors, Jack Olson and Tom Ulrich, both successful professionals with years of experience.

The workshop had ..."The right amount of classroom, shooting in the field, and fun."

*Scott Henderson,
Asistant Director of
Arkansas Game and Fish
Commission*

Tuition cost is only \$795 and includes film, processing, transportation within the park, and daily critiques of your work. This is a great value compared to other workshops that either charge much higher tuition, or do not

MEMBER NEWS & EVENTS

provide as much attention to each student, or both. For those who cannot attend the June workshop, remember we have our second workshop coming up in late September. Complete information and registration forms can be found at www.rmowp.org.

IRS Grants RMOWP Non-Profit Status

The Internal Revenue Service, on March 6, 2003, granted Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers, Inc. non-profit status under Internal Revenue Code 501 (c) (6). According to the IRS letter, RMOWP is "exempt from Federal income tax..."

The announcement of our new tax status was made by President John Catsis at the RMOWP Board of Directors meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico on April 12. It was greeted with smiles and audible approval. "The voices of doom and gloom were wrong," Catsis said. "The IRS has ruled we owe no back taxes, and unless our income exceeds \$25,000 a year, we will not have to pay any in the future, either."

The IRS letter went on to say that RMOWP will have to return Form 990, annually, acknowledging that our income was below \$25,000. And if RMOWP should at any time have any employees, we would be required to pay taxes under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act. RMOWP does not have employees, but does utilize independent contractors for certain functions, such as newsletter editor. These individuals will continue to receive IRS Form 1099.

"I believe I speak for the entire board in expressing our pleasure in having this matter behind us," Catsis said. "The application was handled in a

professional and expeditious matter, principally due to the valuable assistance of Treasurer Barbara Laine and CPA Randy Kiesel of Chandler, Arizona.

"With the IRS ruling we can now look forward to a successful conference in Lander, Wyoming this September 3-6, and the continued growth of RMOWP; the only regional organization dedicated to helping novices become professional outdoor communicators," he concluded.



RMOWP Positions Opening Up This Year

Be a leader and help make things happen in RMOWP! If you've been a member for over a year and have attended at least one conference, consider exercising your leadership and other skills in an important role in our group.

Lee Carr, Chairman of the Past President's Council, is seeking candidates for seven positions that will become open in 2003. They are President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and three board positions. The officer positions are for two year terms, and the board positions are for three years, expiring in 2006.

To let Lee know you want to be a candidate for one of these important positions, call him at 970-261-8609 or email him at dlcarr328@earthlink.net.

MEMBER NEWS & EVENTS

Writers Needed for Wildlife Express

Wildlife Express is seeking experienced, eloquent writer for their new quarterly outdoor magazine. They are only interested in stories and pictures of outdoor adventures, particularly those related to hunting and fishing.

Fees and contract rights will be negotiated when a story or photo is chosen for publication. Hard copies of pictures and stories will not be returned unless the writer/photographer states otherwise and provides a self addressed, postage paid package for returns.

Stories should not exceed 1000 words. Pictures are greatly appreciated, preferably 8x10 or larger; digital photos should be at least 600 DPI in PSD format (negatives, slides, or disk formatted pictures are also acceptable). They currently do not have any deadlines for submissions.

Contact Roy Simmons at rsimmons@wildlifeexpress.com or at the address below if you have any questions. Submit all documents in hard copy to:

Wildlife Express
c/o Stories
6 N. Spring Street
Buckhannon, WV 26201

Conference 2003 Update

Updates from Tom and Beullah Bishop on the planning and activities of the 2003 Conference in Lander Wyoming are coming soon. New information will continue to be posted online at rmowp.org as it becomes

available, and will be published in the next newsletter issue. Visit our website and review recent newsletter issues for updates and articles about the conference and making the most of your trip to Lander, such as Jack Olson's Bound for Lander series in Jack's Jaunts.

There are many things to do in and around Lander in addition to the many RMOWP conference events, so start your planning now. The Bishop's are also lining up some group activities so you can pick and choose from a few pre-planned outings.

The conference runs September 3-6, 2003, which means it starts 2 days after Labor Day. You can add a few days to your holiday weekend and make a week or longer adventure out of it, and enjoy plenty of sightseeing and activities on your way there and back as well as while in Lander.

Thanks to Tom and Beullah and everyone else involved in the planning and organization effort required to make this conference a great one!

Traveler's Tips on Protecting Film

RMOWP member Kelly Gatlin provides this reminder recently sent by United Airlines stating "In many airports, you will notice new bag screening machines in the lobby area operated by TSA employees. These machines may damage film, so pack your film with your carry-on luggage."

Go to tsa.gov/public/display?theme=56 to find tips and precautions for travelers regarding protecting film from airport security x-rays.

Ron Hellbusch Published in New ESPN Online Outdoors Magazine

Ron Hellbusch, RMOWP member and Awards Co-Chair, has some exciting new work in the works. He will be published in a new online outdoors E-Magazine in which will be appearing in early April. It is an ESPN product (the big sports news and information group) and you can see it online at ESPNoutdoors.com.

Ron says "The editor was good enough to use my Florida Bone Fishing article and photos -- you know, the trip where Irma caught the biggest fish!". The article will appear in the April 8-9 edition front page, and April 9-10 on the fishing page. "This fall the editor will carry my Pheasant Preserve hunting article, in which I will most likely be upstaged again by another blond, Aspen; and possibly my son Mark and his black lab Clara!"

Ron suggests you check out this ESPN online publication and put it in your address book. It is full of a wide variety of outdoor articles, equipment, gear, and adventures and information...and of course it will have a very well written and informative article on bone fishing!

Dues, Newsletter, and Website Updates

Be sure you have sent in your dues for 2003 to Barb Laine or this will be your last newsletter! See the notice on p. 9 for more details.

Also be sure to read the Webmaster's Wire article on p. 11 for important information regarding changes in access to the Members Only sections of rmowp.org.

MEMBER NEWS & EVENTS

April 2003 Board Meeting Report

by John Catsis



Meeting of the great minds of RMOWP Board Members at the April 12, 2003 gathering held in Albuquerque, NM. Pictured on the far side of table, L-R, are Jack Olson, Lee Carr, Helen Shields, Joe Roybal, and John Catsis. With backs to camera, L-R, are Barbara Laine, Joel Evans, and Anne Sullivan.

In a meeting that moved along quickly, the Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers Board of Directors addressed a number of matters at its meeting held at the beautiful Rio Grande Nature Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Here are some of the highlights and decisions:

- Only those members who have paid their 2003 dues of \$35 will be eligible to vote for future officers and board members. Acting Treasurer Barbara Laine will be sending out reminder notices. Those who have not paid by June 30 will have their names removed from the membership rolls.
- Cindy Stone was cited in an official resolution, for her outstanding work as newsletter editor.
- Stone was asked to poll all members to determine how many wish to receive the newsletter exclusively on line. This will permit printing and postage savings. (The on line edition is in color!)
- Similarly, the membership directory is to be available only online unless a member specifically requests a copy by mail.
- The webmaster, who also is Cindy Stone, was asked to change the password after consulting with Vice President Laine, who will verify paid members.
- The chat room is to be discontinued immediately as it was determined that it served no useful purpose at this time.
- John Catsis announced he will not be photo workshop coordinator after this year, but will remain available for teaching duties, if requested by the new coordinator.
- The Spring photo workshop is a go with six paid enrollees as of this writing, which is one more than reported at the board meeting. So far, no one has enrolled for the fall workshop.
- President Catsis announced that the Internal Revenue Service had granted RMOWP a 501(c)(6) designation as a non-profit organization. This means we are exempt from federal income tax; past, present or future, unless our income should exceed \$25,000 a year.

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- The board approved changes in the by-laws which must receive final approval by the membership at the Lander conference. The changes are as follows: (1) The term of office for President and Vice President shall be for two years. They may be re-elected, but may serve no more than two consecutive terms. (2) The Secretary and Treasurer terms of office may be unlimited, but each must be re-elected every two years. (The reason for this change is to achieve greater continuity for our organization, especially financially. Barbara Laine, now our acting Treasurer, has agreed to be Treasurer.) (Anne Sullivan was in attendance as acting Secretary.) (3) Membership designations are to be changed to three major categories. They are Individual, Student, and Supporting. The latter two categories are non-voting. Individual members also incorporate Founding, Charter, Honorary, and Life. All are voting members. Note that there would be no such classification as Active or Associate. (4) The Membership Committee would be deleted. Member applications would be sent initially to the Secretary, and then passed on to the Treasurer.
- If by law change (2) is approved by the membership, the next President will be asked to name a standing internal audit committee.
- Dues will remain at \$35 a year for the foreseeable future.
- New members attending their first conference will receive an official RMOWP coffee mug.
- A new mission statement has been approved by the board. Effective immediately it will be incorporated in every newsletter and every application for membership. The mission statement is as follows: "Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers, Inc. is a regional non-profit organization of professional and aspiring communicators, dedicated to the improvement of communicating the outdoor experience in the Rocky Mountain west."
- The 2004 conference will be held in mid-July in Durango, Colorado. Lee Carr will be the coordinator, with assistance from Jack Olson and the Laines.
- The 2005 conference will be held in early June in Silver City, New Mexico. John Catsis will be the coordinator, with assistance from Anne Sullivan.
- It was decided to withhold any decision on whether to pursue having another Executive Director.
- Board Member Helen Shields agreed to serve as Supporting Member committee chair.
- Barbara Laine has agreed to finalize the design of our membership cards.



President John Catsis (L) sets the style with the Arizona Tropics look, while Anne, Joel, and Barb (L-R back row) ponder the topic of discussion at the RMOWP Board meeting. Pictured on the near side of table, L-R, are Joe, Helen, Lee and Jack. Thanks for everyone on the Board for investing their time, talent, and leadership to keeping RMOWP on track!

MEMBER NEWS & EVENTS

Pay Your Dues or You'll Be Singing the Blues!

President John Catsis reminds us that his issue is available only to those who have received the new user name and password in the last few days, in an email from newsletter editor Cindy Stone. The user name and password will change again, with the next issue, and will be available only

to those members who have paid their dues. Dues are \$35 and should be mailed to Barbara Laine, RMOWP Treasurer, P.O. Box 1200, El Prado, NM 87529-1200. Student dues are \$5. Don't wait to get a reminder from Barb. Don't get left out!

One of the many fascinating petroglyphs photographed by RMOWP member Jack Olson at Petroglyph National Monument, NM.

See related story on p. 10



In Memory of One of Our Founders

Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers has lost a good friend. Robert D. Kline, Ph.D, passed away April 20 in Bradenton, Florida, at the age of 83. Born in Hagerstown, MD, Bob eventually made his way west to Albuquerque, NM, where he was a professor of the education department at the University of New Mexico.

A dedicated photographer, Bob helped create RMOWP in 1974, and remained active until the mid-1990s, when he moved to Florida. He won the Selected Works Award for photography in 1990, and served several terms on the RMOWP board of directors.

His wife Micky attended many of the RMOWP meetings with Bob until her death in 1996, just one week short of her 75th birthday. The couple had been married 57 years.

Survivors include a son and daughter, a brother and sister, nine grandchildren, and one great grandchild.

A memorial service was held April 26 in Bradenton, Florida, with inurnment in Hagerstown, MD. The family has requested that memorial contributions be made in Bob's name to the American Heart Association, Attention Memorials, P.O. Box 21475, St. Petersburg, FL 33742.

The Freedom to Seek Pleasure

tui.edu or tui.edu/vermontcollege. The Vermont College Master of Arts program, which is a low-residency/distance education program, can be used for both writers and artists.

Some of the benefits of the Vermont College program are the freedom from uncomfortable classrooms, the freedom to travel the Rocky Mountains, America, and the

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World, the freedom to be with your family, the freedom to work on your program throughout the night or day, the freedom to design a program that will satisfy your needs and the needs that you perceive within society, and the freedom to add photographs, drawings, and video productions to your writing!

MEMBER ARTICLE

*Meeting My Idol**by Jack Olson*

It's the early '50s, and I'm lying on the floor of my grandparents' home on a lazy summer afternoon. I'm listening intently to the old radio as Harry Carey intones: "Two on, two out, and here comes Musial! It's a long drive, deep to right! It might be, it could be, it IS! A home run!" Stan Musial was the hero of my youth.

Now that I'm slightly more grown up, there are still individuals I admire, but the pedestals are lower and more realistic. Nevertheless, I've especially appreciated the work of one photographer for over thirty years---David Muench. I consider him to be the best landscape photographer of our time, sort of an Ansel Adams of color. I recently had an opportunity to meet him, up close and camera personal.

The North American Nature Photography Association (NANPA) held its annual Summit in Albuquerque this past February. They offered a pre-Summit photo field trip led by David Muench and another excellent landscape photographer, Tom Till. I signed up right away; I wasn't going to miss that chance for all the film in Rochester.



Our group left the hotel before 5:30 AM and got out to Petroglyph National Monument by 6:00. It was still dark as we began hiking by flashlight to get to our photo location before sunrise. We were in Piedras Marcadas Canyon, site of the largest concentration of petroglyphs in the monument. David has moved from Santa Barbara, California, to Corrales, New Mexico, and lives near the national monument. He had picked out a spot that had good exposure from the sun as it rose over the Sandia Mountains.



I had an opportunity a couple of times to talk with David, and also Tom Till, one on one about photography. They gave me several good tips that will be useful in practice. There was one piece of advice I was able to put to use immediately. The petroglyphs stand out well against the dark basaltic rock, but there is more reflection of bright, direct sunlight at that early hour than can readily be perceived by the eye. David suggested using a polarizing filter, which cut down the glare and made the petroglyphs really pop. Partly due to the great light, along with use of the filter, those were the best petroglyph photos I've ever made.

I also had a chance to talk with David about the Crestones area of southern Colorado. He has climbed and photographed there, as have I. All in all, it was a special experience. I was cool; I didn't gush or ask for a picture of "me n' David". But I won't forget meeting, and learning from, the man who I feel is the best at what he does.



MORE MEMBER NEWS & EVENTS

Webmaster's Wire

Your Webmaster Wants You!!!

by Cindy Stone

A few items regarding the website that I need your attention on are: user-name and password, website changes, coordinators needed for special feature of the website, and photos for board and other leaders.

New Access Info

We have a new user name and password to access the Member's Only portions of the website such as the directories. The user name is outnabout, and the password is picsnpens. I will be updating the username and password regularly and will publish them in each issue of the newsletter. If for any reason we ever must change this information between issues, I will notify those of you by email that have email, and anyone else will likely have to find out when they try to access the site and it does not work, then contact me or John Catsis or another member for the new information. I don't foresee this happening, but just in case, you know.

Also remember that the information in the secure area of the site, the Member's Only section, is intended to be a benefit of those who have a paid membership, so your help in protecting the access information is requested. Membership fees help pay for the services we offer.

As usual, if you ever have any trouble with the website or see errors that need correcting or info that needs updating, please let me know at cindy@rmowp.org or call me at 509-851-2130. The only problem that has been reported to me in the past several

months are a few times where people have not been able to access the password protected portion of the site. I could detect no problem and myself and others were still able to access the secure site with the same username and password, and after a few more hours or the next day, the people experiencing trouble were able to get in again. This type of problem is not too unusual and occasionally internet networks, just like phone lines, experience glitches in performance or transmission of data that causes random glitches like this to happen.

If you have problems with something, let me know. If you don't hear back from me right away, try again later or at different times to see if it clears up on its own.

Website Changes

I am continually making major and minor updates to the site, so I won't report on every one. However, one major change is that the Discussion Board has been disabled for the time being. The posts that were being made to the board were not in keeping with the true purpose and usefulness of the forum, and participation was limited. From past experience, to run an effective, dynamic, and engaging discussion board initially requires strong guidance, cheerleading, and monitoring. The Press Release link was also removed due to lack of content. This leads to the next item of discussion...

Coordinators Needed

The Discussion Board and other

portions of the website are in dire need of a coordinator and more involvement or contribution from members, such as the Photographer of the Month, Book Releases, and RMOWP Resources. If you are interested in being the coordinator for any feature or portion of the website, or simply in contributing content and ideas, please let me know.

I can continue taking care of the technical webmaster aspects, the changing of pages, functionality, coding, uploading, etc., but cannot alone keep up with all the creativity and coordination and content development needed for all the areas of the website and the newsletter. After a long, hard 18 months of unemployment, I have finally landed full-time and part-time jobs, so I will more than have my hands full, and can use all the help I can get! And if you are interested in getting into some of the technical aspects too, we can work together on that. Let me know what you'd like to take charge of or help out with!

Smiling Faces

We need photos for our leadership team members to post on the Board information page at rmowp.org/board.htm. Missing faces include Jon, MaryAnn, Ron, Joel, Helen, Beto, and Jeff. Please send me a decent quality photo either digital or print of your happy face so I can put you online and everyone can see who you are! If there are any positions or other faces missing, please let me know. If you already have your pic there and want to change it, send a new one to me.

RMOWP Newsletter Editor
Cindy Stone
1352 Chardonnay Dr
Richland WA 99352-7303

Address service requested



We're on the web at
www.rmowp.org

The Newsletter of Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers

RMOWP Calendar

2003

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|--------------|--|
| June 14-18 | OWAA Conference
Columbia MO |
| June 26-30 | RMOWP Photo Workshop 1
Rocky Mtn Natl Park
Estes Park CO |
| Sep 3-6 | RMOWP Conference
Lander WY |
| Sep 29-Oct 3 | RMOWP Photo Workshop 2
Rocky Mtn Natl Park
Estes Park CO |

2004

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|------|--------------------------------|
| July | RMOWP Conference
Durango CO |
|------|--------------------------------|



*Contribute to
your
newsletter!*

Communicate With RMOWP !

Share your outdoor media, writing, & photography expertise, experiences, and achievements with fellow members. Help showcase and improve the talents of members. Send articles and photos to the editor, Cindy Stone, at:

cindy@rmowp.org
1352 Chardonnay Dr
Richland WA 99352-7303
Fax & Phone: 509-627-4747

**Next Newsletter Deadline
June 16 2003**

*Please send submissions by this date
for the July/ August 2003 issue.*