



Rocky Mountain Outdoors

The Newsletter of Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers

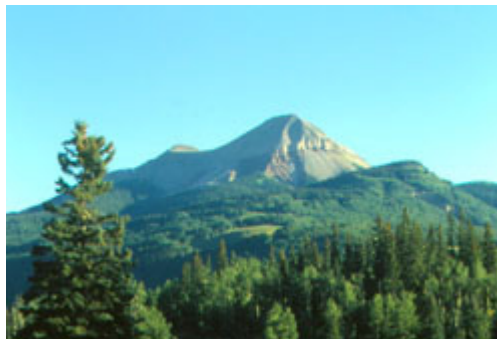


See You In Durango!

Our 2004 Conference offers a wealth of interesting workshops and field trips.

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Some of the sights we'll see during the Durango Conference. Top left: the Mayflower Mill, two miles northeast of Silverton, a National Historic Landmark. Right: The Walsh house in Animas Forks, near Silverton.

Bottom left: Engineer Mountain as seen from Hwy. 550 heading north.

banner photo of Red Mountain in autumn taken by Jack Olson

Photos by Jack Olson



From Our President, Barb Laine

RMOWP's devoted board of directors descended on my home in beautiful El Prado, New Mexico on April 17 for an all-day board meeting. They came from all parts of New Mexico and Colorado. But the award for the greatest distance traveled goes to Ruth Raupe, who drove in from Oklahoma – now that's dedication!

One of the most exciting pieces of news to come out of the meeting is that we have a new newsletter editor: Ron Kerr (member from British Columbia, Canada) has agreed to take over from Maryann Gaug after this newsletter comes out. Maryann graciously agreed to fill in while the search was on for a permanent editor, and has done a great job. If you think you haven't met Ron you are probably correct. Although he's been a member for about three years he has not yet attended a conference – but he assures me he plans to be in Durango in July. Ron is presently newsletter editor for Northwest Outdoor Writers Assoc., of which he is a charter member (31 years); has been a member of OWAA for 36 years; and has had hundreds of newspaper columns and photos published. As you can see, he is well-qualified and definitely experienced! Welcome aboard, Ron, we all look forward to meeting you in Durango.

Awards co-chair Maryann Gaug (how many hats does this woman wear?!) has recommended that we increase digital photo categories to match the slide categories. There will be a presentation and discussion about this in Durango the same evening we show all the slide entries. Digital is certainly something that we need to address and include fully in our contest, as more and more of our members are moving in that direction. Albeit some of us a bit slower than others.

Cindy Stone has announced she must step down as our webmaster, due to increased time constraints in her "real" job and life in general. Therefore we are looking for someone to replace her. We have a fairly in-depth job description, so if anyone is interested, please email Jack Olson, our web-liaison, at JACKOLSON1@aol.com. By the way, remember that many of us are travel writers and photographers, and consequently are frequently on the road gathering fodder to sell, and may not be able to respond immediately to your query. But don't despair, Jack will get back to you as soon as he can.

A continuing discussion at the board level concerns Supporting Members: what we do for them, and suggestions of new ones to approach and how. In an effort to educate all of us in what various Supporting Members do, Ben Moffett volunteered to contact them and write a series of articles for our newsletter. He has begun his research, but if any of you wishes to tackle a specific Supporting Member, get in touch with Ben and let him know. In addition, any time any of us does something (an article or mention in a book, etc.) about one of our SMs, please let them – and us – know about it.

For instance, Don and I are working on a guide to short hikes in Arizona and are utilizing a global positioning system (GPS) in conjunction with computerized maps we obtained from Maptech, who has been a supporting member for some years. The results are fascinating and verge on intimidating: we return from a hike, download the trail data from the GPS into our laptop where resides the quad-map from Maptech, and voila! There's the trail exactly where it should be on the map. Of course what also shows up are our detours and side trips, usually the result of hiker's confusion. Then with a push of a button we have the trail profile that our publishers want, too. Incredible. Once we complete the research (we've done about a third so far) I'll write a précis for Maptech, which they can use on their website or wherever they like.



RMOWP Board Members at the Laine's from left to right: Frank Zurey, Ben Moffett, Helen Shields, Jon Sheppard, Barb Laine, Lee Carr (back), Jack Olson, Anne Sullivan, Maryann Gaug, and Ruth Raupe.

Dogs Penny left and LBD just had to be in the picture.

photo by Don Laine

Several days after the board meeting, when I was gathering together and organizing my many papers and notes for and from the meeting, I discovered an important item I had overlooked. Luckily, when we made changes to the by-laws last year, we foresaw this very problem and made provision for it. So I immediately emailed all board members and within several days had a consensus of opinion (and votes), to wit: we are offering one year free membership in RMOWP to all those who attend the excellent photo workshop that RMOWP holds each year (the proceeds from which go toward our scholarship). The thinking behind this is that these people are strong potential members, and by giving them a year's free membership we can show them everything RMOWP offers its members. This also gives us time to convince them that they should continue the relationship when they receive a renewal notice the following year!

These are the highlights from our meeting. Hope everyone's enjoying spring weather – we had snow the other night but today is sunny and warm.

See you all in Durango in July...

CONFERENCE COMMUNICATIONS

Those Details

By now each member should have received a packet of detailed information about RMOWP's Durango Conference, July 7 - 10, 2004. Hopefully you've sent in your registration form and money, because this conference promises to be very interesting and informative. Not to mention that you'll get to see all your old friends and meet lots of new ones. And you don't want to miss the slide show on Wed. night featuring our talented photographers!

If for some reason you can't find your registration form, head to RMOWP's website, www.rmowp.org, and get a copy.

Conference Headquarters will be at Ft. Lewis College, 1000 Rim Drive in beautiful Durango, Colorado.

All meetings and selected events will be held at Noble Hall, Rm.140, except for registration next door in Rm. 150.

Conference registration forms and checks must be received by our Treasurer and conference co-chair, Lee Carr, no later than June 4th. Return completed form and check to:

Lee Carr, Treasurer
16447 Cottonwood Drive
Cedaredge, CO 81413-8211

Lodging reservations must be made by June 4th if you plan to stay at Ft. Lewis College. Contact Gayle Rasmussen at Fort Lewis College, 970-247-7372. Tell her you are with Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers. Apartments not reserved by this date will be released to other users. Payment may be made by credit card. We will be staying in the Centennial Apartments. The rates are very reasonable compared to other commercial facilities during Durango's peak tourist season.

Campground Possibilities

Haviland Lake Campground. (San Juan National Forest) About 20 miles north of Durango on US 550.

Junction Creek Campground (San Juan National Forest). From junction of US 550/Main St. and 25th street (Junction Creek Road), go west 5 miles on Junction Creek Rd.

Cottonwood Camper Park. 21636 US Hwy 160, Durango CO 81301, 970-247-1977.

United Campgrounds of Durango. 970-247-3853.

For **other** (more expensive) **lodging** ideas, check out the Durango Tourism Office at www.durango.com or call (800) GO-DURANGO.

Before and/or After Conference

The **Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad** Reservations required. www.durangotrain.org or 970-259-3372

Mesa Verde National Park, with its many ancient cliff dwellings, is located just 45 min. from Durango.

Attention Writers!

By Anne Sullivan

Once again the annual Conference will feature a writing critique session, scheduled at 10:00 a.m. on Thurs., July 8 in Noble Hall, Rm. 140.

Don't bring your very best work. Instead bring something you are having trouble with or about which you have a question. The other writers are there to help you with good ideas or to reinforce your own good ideas. Speaking of other writers, we hope some of our more established writers will come and help critique. We would certainly benefit.

Please bring seven (7) copies of your work. Try to keep it four pages or less, double-spaced. The shorter the better as we only have an hour. You will read your manuscript out loud while the others follow along on their copies and make notes. Or you might want to bring an idea for a book or story or article that you have been mulling over.

In addition, we will spend a minute or two discussing Writing Groups and how to start one in your neighborhood or town.

Photographers' Critique

Attention, Photographers! Remember to bring five (5) slides to the photo critique by Jack Olson scheduled for Fri. night at 8:00 p.m. in Noble Hall Rm. 140. The critique is a great way to get feedback on your slides plus look and listen to critiques of other photographers. This session is a great learning opportunity!

Members' Choice Award

All you photographers and artists, bring an entry or two for the Members' Choice contest. Entries may be BW or color prints; 2-dimensional art; 3-dimensional art; or digitally altered (in an obvious way) fun shots. These can be from any year. Print size is 8 x 10 or 8 x 12 inches on a mat not to exceed 12 x 14 inches, unframed. These entries will be displayed at the conference and members will vote on their three favorites. Place your name and designate "Members' Choice" on your entries. Below are submissions at the 2003 RMOWP conference.



MORE CONFERENCE COMMUNICATIONS

Scholarship Auction

By John Catsis

John Catsis has announced that 2005 will be the last time he will be auctioneer at our annual conferences. "I've been doing this altogether too long, and it's time for someone else to take over." Catsis made the comment at a news conference held recently at his home in Chandler, Arizona. John's wife, Connie, the only person in attendance—if you don't count Socrates the wonder dog—was relieved by the news.

"I'm delighted," she said. "I've always been afraid that someday he would take off all of his clothes."

"That's still a possibility," John replied. "After all, I've got Durango and Silver City left!"

With Catsis wielding the gavel, recent auctions have generally earned well over \$1,000 for the RMOWP scholarship program. At the Lakewood, Colorado conference in 2002, the auction set a record of more than \$2,000.

Persons interested in becoming the next auctioneer have the opportunity to "try out" as John's assistant at the Durango conference. Contact him at 480-539-0484 or at johncatsis@hotmail.com.



Jim Baker assisting John Catsis at the auction in Lander.

photo by Maryann Gaug

With that introduction and picture, you know you have to bring items for the auction! Stop reading this newsletter for a few minutes and go load a bag full of goodies for your fellow RMOWPers to bid on.

Elections

Check your mailboxes toward the end of May for the ballot for board members and officers. Please return them promptly. New officers and board members will be announced at the Durango conference at the general membership meeting on Sat.

Field Trip Background

By Maryann Gaug

One of our field trips will be the Missionary Ridge Wildfire Restoration Project with the U.S. Forest Service. The Missionary Ridge fire started on June, 9, 2002 during a very dry summer after a dry winter. The area is northeast of Durango. Over 40 days, the fire covered 72,962 acres destroying 56 homes and 27 out-buildings. After the fire, satellite images were taken to understand the severity and range of the wildfire. The results showed that of the 72,962 acres involved, 22,542 acres burned at high severity, 21,822 at moderate severity, 13,872 at low severity, and 14,728 acres were essentially unburned. This field trip should provide an interesting insight into wildfires and how humans are dealing with the results.



Silverton's main street

photo by Jack Olson

Rocky Mountain Outdoors

Published bi-monthly by Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers, Inc.

Officers

President: Barb Laine, El Prado, NM
V. Pres: Jack Olson, Denver, CO
Secretary: Anne Sullivan, Datil, NM
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Ron Kerr, Kimberley, B.C. (J/Aug issue)

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Cindy Stone, Richland, WA

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Ben Moffett, Bosque Farms, NM (2006)
Ruth Raupe, Orlando, OK (2006)
Helen Shields, Tularosa, NM (2004)
Jon Sheppard, Avon, CO (2004)
Frank Zurey, Golden, CO (2005)

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Dr. Beto Guitierrez, Edinburg, TX
Jack Olson, Denver, CO

RMOWP Business Stuff

Scholarship for RMOWP

By Jeff Pederson

Please help get the word out.

June 1 is the acceptance deadline for the 2003/2004 Scott-McKenna Memorial Scholarship. There is an entry form in this newsletter, and you should be able to access one at the RMOWP web site. This annual award provides from \$500 to \$1,000 to a deserving student who will study...communications and the outdoors, naturally!

Joe McKenna, veteran sport-show organizer and the man whose inspiration formed RMOWP in 1973, and J.B. Scott, another founding member, were ardent supporters of this concept and the scholarship is named in their memory.

Who is eligible? Candidates must be nominated by a current member of RMOWP and should be enrolled in college, or will attend next year. Students from high school seniors and into graduate school are eligible. In keeping with the original intent of the scholarship, it is restricted to students in the fields of outdoor writing or photography.

Use the application form to encourage good students to apply. Sign the form as a sponsor. You can also contact Jeff Pederson, who is the scholarship chairman (505) 476-8113, or at pedersonjeff@comcast.com.

The money comes from funds set aside by the board each year, after a review of our finances. Auctions raise funds at annual conferences. Donations are also welcome, and we are fortunate that an anonymous benefactor has matched the RMOWP amount in many years. The scholarships began in 1991.

You may contribute as well, through a board member, by mail, or in person. Thank you for spreading the word about this year's scholarship.

2004 RMOWP Photo Workshop

By Tom Cummings

As you know, the 2004 Photo workshop is scheduled for June 11-15. We have just enough participants to hold the workshop but still have openings available.

We seem to have had a limited number of inquiries this year. I plan to visit with John Catsis at the Durango conference to compare these inquiries to those in the prior years. I would appreciate any input from our members as to how we can reach more outdoor enthusiasts and make them aware of our workshop. Please think about it and if you have a thought I'd be happy to visit with you during the conference or via telephone (918-225-2721) or email (Tomc1114@cox.net) for those not attending. I'm open for ideas or suggestions. We have a great product but it's hard to market it with our limited funds so please pass your thoughts to me.

2003 Scholarship Winner

By Lee Carr

Now a candidate for Master of Fine Arts in Photography at New Mexico State University, Frank Hamrick was awarded last year's Scott-McKenna Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$500. He received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Photography from the University of Georgia in 1998.

In a statement from Frank, he said it all started when he was 10 years old using a cheap 35mm camera from an auto dealership promotion. He photographed cows, deer, his dog, and other things found in his rural surroundings. His formal fine art studies improved his technical skills, but he said he was having trouble with content until a professor encouraged him to photograph the world as he saw it, which led to a philosophy he uses today.

Frank said, "The intent of my photography is to stir a person's emotions. Emotions are universal. I capture feelings on film and put them out there for the viewer to respond to. The images are of people and places with individuality and texture. The people are real, every-day folks you do not see on television dramas or in magazine advertisements. The places are not prettied up for the photographs I create. I believe my photographs stand out from the world, which is becoming increasingly homogenized and synthetic."



Mr. Hamrick's resume includes a long list of exhibitions, broad experience in various photography related employments and one book published by Nexus Press titled "I found it when I stopped looking."

Frank was selected to receive the scholarship by the Fine Arts faculty at New Mexico State University. RMOWP's normal process for scholarship selection did not produce a winner last year so the Board decided to let NMSU select the winner. NMSU was chosen because they have been a Supporting Member of RMOWP for a number of years.

Member News

Update Your Directories!

Welcome New Member!

Kathryn Donoho 505-525-0393
600 Cindy Pl. dkathy@peoplpc.com
Las Cruces, NM 88005

Address Changes:

Ron Kerr
P.O. Box 310
Kimberley BC Canada V1A2Y9

Margaret and William Staley
2445 S Quebec St.
Denver CO 80231-6036



Silverton's main street

photo by Jack Olson

Do you have web-design skills? RMOWP needs you!

Cindy Stone is stepping down as webmaster. She has provided a fairly in-depth job description, and has said she will help with transition.

The webmaster receives a nominal monthly fee for maintaining and updating the website www.rmowp.org.

Interested? Contact web-liaison Jack Olson at JACKOLSON1@aol.com
Specific website questions? Ask Cindy Stone at solunasea@hotmail.com.

Miracle Mile Fishing Article

By Ron Hellbusch

For all you trout anglers.....you may find my article on spring Wyoming fishing on the Miracle Mile entertaining and it may bring back some memories of days you spent on this fine fishery....check online http://espn.go.com/outdoors/fishing/s/f_fea_WY_N.Platte_spring04_Hellbusch.html.

RMOWP Website Info.

Our website is www.rmowp.org. Userid for members only sections is *birdsofa* and the password is *feather*. This userid and password will stay the same until further notice. If you have any problems with our website please contact our webmaster, Cindy, at cindy@rmowp.org.

Information Update Reminder

Calling all members who have changed their email addresses or other information. Please email or snail mail any address changes to Ron Kerr who will be taking over the membership directory as well as the newsletter!

Email Ron at r.kerr@monarch.net or send snail mail to him at P.O. Box 310, Kimberley BC Canada V1A2Y9.

Digital Photos Contest Ideas

By Maryann Gaug

As co-chair of the awards committee, I got to thinking that many of us are now into digital photography, but we can only enter three color images as prints and another three as black & white prints. That doesn't seem quite fair.

During the Durango conference, we'll have a discussion about the best way to include digital photography in the 2005 Photo/Writing Contest.

A few ideas:

- Have a separate digital photography category with the same nine topics as we have for slides. That would mean up to 25 more awards.
- Combine 35mm slides and digital photos in the same category with the nine topics.
- We need to have a standard way to submit digital photos, such as on CD, 4x6, and 150 dpi, or whatever is deemed appropriate. Suggestions requested!
- We also have to figure out the best way for judges to judge the digital category and especially if we combine 35mm and digital photography into one category. Again, suggestions appreciated.
- We'll need a computer projector to project digital entries and winners at conference. We'll have a demo this year with a projector Photo Workshop coordinator Tom Cummings has agreed to lend us.

Come prepared to discuss various ways to include digital photography in our annual awards contest and "slide" show.

If you can't make the conference but have some ideas to share, email them to me at maryann@rmowp.org.

Supporting Member News

Pure Fishing

(First of a series of articles on RMOWP supporting members by RMOWP writers).

By Ben Moffett



To anyone who has been away from fishing for a period of time, like me, Pure Fishing might sound like a start-up company.

Not by a long shot. This RMOWP supporting member is the world's largest fishing tackle company with a portfolio of brands that include all those famous ones we regularly use including Abu Garcia, Berkley, Fenwick, Johnson, Mitchell, Red Wolf, and Spider.

While these brands are as popular as ever, they now fall under the corporate banner of Pure Fishing, headquartered in Spirit Lake, Iowa, and privately owned by the Bedel family, who started out with the Berkley line. Tom Bedell, son of founder Berkley Bedell, is the company chairman. The elder Bedell, a U.S. Representative, started the company in 1937.

Despite merger mania typical of that going on in other sectors of the economy, Pure Fishing is holding true to its ideals. "The Angler Is Our Boss" is a part of its strategic principles, along with a takeoff of the Golden Rule: "Treat Others As We Would Like to Be Treated."

Growth is also part of the mission: "The World Is Our Marketplace" and "Financial Strength Creates Opportunity."

In the last year or so, the company added the Stren Fishing line business to its lure and rod and reel company. It bought Stren from Remington, the maker of rifles and shotguns, after Remington decided to unload it to focus on its core firearms business.

To its credit, Pure Fishing announced that it is adding manufacturing, warehouse and distribution jobs in Iowa as it reduces Stren's use of outsourcing — the practice of turning over work to companies outside the United States.

The company, which Bedell founded by tying flies in his parents' basement, now has seven regional operational centers across the world and 2,000 employees worldwide.

Whatever you need to know about Pure Fishing you can find by Googling, but "pure fishing" is a generic as well as a business term and you might make a couple of false starts. Look for "Pure Fishing America" or go directly to the website at www.purefishing.com.

Links to the individual dealership lines and their locations can be found there, as well as a spiel on "aquatic stewardship," which notes that the company "embraces" the Endangered Species Act and "supports meaningful cooperation between federal and state agencies in balancing the importance of protecting listed species and providing recreational opportunities."

RMOWP's contact at Pure Fishing is Brian Thomas. Don't expect to get him on short notice, however. He's a very

busy individual as is his entire staff. His phone number is 877-777-3850 and email is brthomas@purefishing.com.

Crested Butte's Summer Events

Set in a remote-feeling valley surrounded by wildflower meadows, three wilderness areas, more than a million acres of National Forest and towering 12,000 to 14,000 foot peaks, Crested Butte is the capital of its own summer wonderland. From wilderness solitude to high-stimulation recreation to startlingly sophisticated restaurants and cultural events, Crested Butte's diverse summer slate appeals to everyone except those who have a hard time making decisions.

Crested Butte is located 28 miles north of Gunnison (a total of 190 miles northeast of Durango) and would be a great add-on adventure to our RMOWP conference, especially with Wildflower Festival set for July 12-18, 2004. The festival offers the greatest wildflowers all over the area, an extensive schedule of tours, drawing and painting courses, planting and photography workshops and cooking classes.

Here's a sampling of Crested Butte's varied summer events. To find out more about these and others, check out www.crestedbutteresort.com. To receive a press kit, contact April Prout, Marketing Communication Manager & Special Events Coordinator, aprout@cbmr.com, 970.349.2303

- 24th Annual FAT TIRE BIKE WEEK, June 23-27, 2004, Crested Butte
- 4th Annual WILDFLOWER RUSH MOUNTAIN STATES CUP RACE, June 26- 27, 2004, Mt. Crested Butte
- CRESTED BUTTE MUSIC FESTIVAL, July 1 – July 31, 2004, Crested Butte
- WILDFLOWER FESTIVAL, July 12-18, 2004, Crested Butte
- FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS, July 31-August 1, 2004, Crested Butte
- CRESTED BUTTE OPEN, August 1-2, 2004, Crested Butte
- WILD MUSHROOM FESTIVAL, August 14 – 17, 2004, Crested Butte
- CRESTED BUTTE/GUNNISON FALL FESTIVAL, September 11-12, 2004, Crested Butte/Gunnison
- VINITOK AND VINITOK FOOD FAIRE, September 23-25, 2004, Crested Butte

Supporting Members

As of May 12, Supporting Member liaison, Helen Shields, reported the following companies/organizations are paid supporting members of RMOWP:

Coleman Company, Remington, Maptech, Inc., DeLorme Mapping, Luhr Jensen and Sons, Tri-Tronics, Inc., National Shooting Sports Foundation, Crested Butte Mountain Resort, PURE FISHING, Blue Ribbon Coalition, Plano, North American Grouse Partnership, and Walker's Game Ear, Inc.



Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers, Inc.

Scholarship Application

Page 1 of 2

Application # _____

Date Received _____

Student Information

Last Name First Name M.I.

Mailing Address

City, State, Zip Code

Home Area Code and Phone Work Area Code and Phone

Social Security Number

Educational and Professional Goals (you may enclose any separate statements or materials):

The information on this application is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant Signature Date

Return application, transcript and other materials
By June 1, 2004, to
Jeff Pederson
103 Michelle Drive
Santa Fe NM 87501
(505) 983-5504

(Over—complete reverse side also)

Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers, Inc.

Scholarship Application

Page 2 of 2

Education:

School Now Attending: _____

School Address: _____

City, State, Zip

Include current transcript from high school or college. Report cards and photocopies are acceptable.

University or other school you plan to attend:

School Name: _____

Intended Major: _____

Has Application Been Made? _____ Accepted? _____

Extracurricular Activities:

Position Held and Responsibilities

References (provide 3 whom we may contact):

Name

Address

Occupation

Phone

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



Address Service Requested

RMOWP Webmaster
Cindy Stone
1352 Chardonnay Dr.
Richland, WA 99352-7303

The Newsletter of Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers

RMOWP Calendar

2004

- June 11-15 RMOWP Photo Workshop, Estes Park, CO
- July 7-10 RMOWP Conference, Durango, CO
- Oct. 15-17 NMOOWPA Conference, Aztec, NM

2005

- June TBD RMOWP Conference, Silver City, NM

July/August Newsletter Deadline will be:

TBD

Ron Kerr will send out an email with the post conference newsletter deadline. Ron Kerr, PO Box 310, Kimberley, BC, Canada V1A 2Y9, email r.kerr@monarch.net.

DUES ARE DUE!!!

Dues renewals reminders were recently sent out with the Durango conference information. Please remember to fill out the renewal form and send it in with your renewal check!

Don't let your renewal get buried in a pile! The time to act is NOW!