



Rocky Mountain Outdoors

Our
28th Year

Dec. 2001/Jan. 2002

The Newsletter of Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers, Inc.

www.rmowp.org

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ANNUAL CONFERENCE RESCHEDULED NEW DATES, JUNE 12 – 15, 2002

It's Winter in the Rocky Mountain High Country!

Photo reflecting the activities of the Tenth Mountain Division some 50 years ago, illustrating "the camouflage effect of white (garments) on white snow. Very effective, especially on cloudy or overcast days," according to photographer Paul Homan.



Photo by Paul Homan

"... what our troops could be going through in the rugged mountain terrain of Afghanistan."



Bighorn Snow Sculpture
Photo by Paul Homan



Snowy Creek
Photo by Jim Tallon



Rudolph the Red Nosed Hay Bale
near Walden, CO
Photo by Maryann Gaug

From The President

Upcoming Conference and Contest

by
Russ Bromby



2002 ANNUAL CONFERENCE DATES CHANGED!

Due to a conflict with the Outdoor Writers Association of America (OWAA) annual conference dates, several members requested that we consider changing the dates of our annual conference to allow them to attend both meetings. I asked Lee Carr, conference chair for the Denver RMOWP conference, if this were possible and he scrambled and made it happen. The new dates are (write this down!) **JUNE 12-16, 2002** in Denver. I apologize if this caused other members any inconvenience. There was no time to poll all members to see if this would be acceptable to them. The conference is shaping up to be one of the best, but I'll let Lee Carr report on those details.

START THINKING ABOUT YOUR ENTRIES NOW

The 2002 Awards Competition details will be coming out in the next newsletter (Feb.-March), but it's probably a good idea to start thinking about it now. In addition to the visions of sugar plums dancing in your head at this time of year, start having thoughts about what you might want to enter in our friendly

annual competition. All members are welcome to enter. For those uninitiated, categories include photography, writing, publicity and art.

Photographic categories for **slides** are People in the Outdoors, Scenic, Flora, Fauna, Historical, Cultural, Events, and Best Slide from the Alamogordo Conference. **Prints** no smaller than 8 x 10 inches may be entered showing subjects that include Scenic, People in the Outdoors, Flora and Fauna in three categories – color prints, black and white prints and digital prints. **Published photographs** can be submitted depicting the same subjects as above in three categories – black and white, color and TV/Movie/Video. Work must have been published since Jan. 1, 2001 (except TV/Movie/Video produced since Jan. 1, 2000). The photography categories include a **novice** category open to new members and members who have not won any RMOWP photo award to date. Slides and prints of outdoor subjects are considered in the novice category.

Writing includes **published** works (since Jan. 1, 2001) in for Newspaper Columns and Newspaper Articles, Magazine Articles, Web Writing, Newsletter, and Books and Scripts for TV/Movie/Video (since Jan. 1, 2000). Plus, there is a **publicity** category for published articles/photographs/artwork related to the previous two conferences (in this case, Bryce Canyon and Alamogordo).

Last but not least is the **art** category. Subjects should be outdoor oriented and can be done in pencil, oil or acrylic, water color and mixed media. Submit slides of your work for this category.

There is a \$5 fee for entering, one fee is good for all entries. Look for the contest details and when and where to submit in the next newsletter.

Have a wonderful holiday season,

Russ

Editor's Note: Lee and Russ are not confused about dates. A Board meeting will be held the morning of June 16th. The conference officially ends with the Saturday night banquet. Other members could perhaps meet for breakfast on Sunday before heading home.

Rocky Mountain Outdoors

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Staying in the Stream of Life

I've read about this phenomenon that seems to afflict mostly men. One writer fly-fished through one. But how is it you know when you're having one, this thing called a mid-life crisis?

For the record, in case my wife reads this, I don't fancy chasing women 15 years my junior, honest. I never liked fast sports cars. Anyone who knows me could attest to that. I have no longing to go buy lots of expensive things I don't need. My wife already knows that one. But looking at 40 just around the corner triggers something inside. A lot of water has passed under the bridge. There's more landscape behind me to ponder whether I took the right path over this hill or that. The distance back to youth, just like my mid-section, is getting wider.

I think the holidays stir up these feelings. Thanksgiving and Christmas come and go, and then the New Year. Everybody tells me to have a happy one, and I plan on it, but I can't help but be nostalgic about bird seasons long past, and about brothers and other kin that have journeyed to meet the Creator. I'm left with a longing—a determination to connect with things that matter most before all the water passes under the bridge.

Hunting and fishing are some of those things that matter most. I've been doing it all since I was knee-high to a Coke bottle. There's little doubt too, that those early experiences shaped my career direction.

Twenty-plus bird seasons have passed since I first hunted bobwhite quail with Don Streit in southern Ohio. Streit, a half-dozen years out of high school and eight years my senior managed a grocery. He hired me on as a clerk, barely 16 years old at the time and we soon discovered our common interests. A lot of years and a lot of miles have passed since Streit and I slogged over wet, fallow fields of rural Ohio hoping for the disquieting flush of bobwhites or bustle of a fast cottontail. His baby boys are now men with the promise of successful careers. I've moved on, started a family of my own.

But time and distance matter not to a strong friendship bounded by a shared adoration of the sporting life. Every winter for the past several years we've made an effort to hunt birds together; as time goes on it seems more important. This year we rendezvoused in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, to hunt pheasants.

We hired hunting guide, Curt Ritchie, and his yellow Lab, Miko. When not training bird dogs, Ritchie trains young men on the grid iron—he's a local high school football coach. Ritchie put us on private farm lands set aside in the Conservation Reserve Program. While CRP may not have boosted grain income like it

Outdoors With The ED

by
Craig Springer



was intended, it has done wonders to conserve valuable top soil, and has boosted wildlife populations, pheasants included. The CRP set aside acreage has created good bird habitat and there is lots of it in the upper Midwest.

Not twenty minutes into our day afield, Miko got birdy in tall canary grass mere feet from a plot of corn. She hustled through the brush, barely visible but for the shaking grass. Ritchie motioned the boys to come around into the wind. Miko, a pointing Lab, swung her head back and forth with dogged determination and then locked up, tight like a spring, ready to pounce. Ritchie motioned to the elder son, Josh, to walk in on the point. Miko pushed the bird up. A whirl of wings. A cackle. A rooster ringneck quickly put air space between us. The sound of rapping wings were followed by the report of shots from the boy's shotgun. Ritchie gave Miko the fetch command and a moment later she brought to hand a handsome bird.

Limiting out on anything, fish or fowl, is not too common for me. But this scene was similarly repeated many times in our two days afield. It's great to see the bounty of sound conservation practices and a good dog at work, but it couldn't have been the consummate experience without the camaraderie of life-long friends.

The bobwhite seasons of the 70s are long past, but I've got a lot to look forward to living and writing in the southern Rockies. It's hardly a crisis, I reckon, to ponder what the future holds. But the emotions it stirs are maybe just a wake-up call that I need to stay engaged in things that really matter, family and friends and the out-of-doors. I need to stay in touch with how I got here. I need to stay in the stream of life.

Directory Updates

Note: The web site is your best source for accurate directory listings.

New Address

John and Connie Catsis
300 West Straford Drive
Chandler, Arizona 85225-7117
480-539-0484
email TBD

Editor's Note: Connie is already at this address, and John will be there permanently around December 15. Congrats on your retirement, John! We expect to see the fruits of your retirement photography!

New Members

Guy J. Sagi
7749 E. Vancouver
Tucson AZ 85730-
520-584-0300
gsagi@earthlink.net

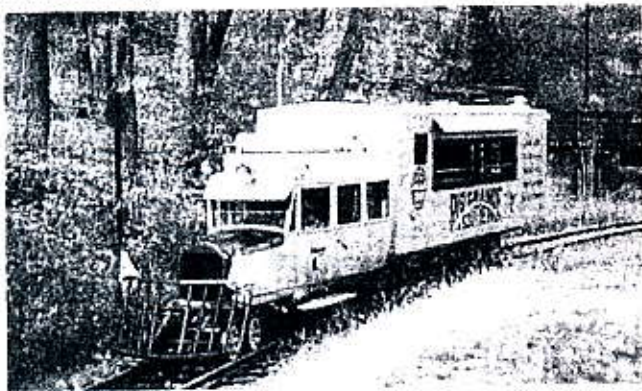
Tom Silver
5422 Portland Rd. NE #12
Salem OR 97305-
503-304-3691
tnsilver@aol.com

RMOWP Conference in Denver Area

The 2002 conference, rescheduled for June 12 through 15, will be held in the Denver area. We have moved the date up one week from the previous announcement so it will not conflict with members planning to attend OWAA. The headquarters hotel, Travelodge Denver West, 11595 West 6th Ave., Lakewood CO, 80215, 303-238-7751, is offering room rates of \$69. This price includes a full free meal between 5-7 p.m., M-F for hotel guests. Most of the meetings, however, will be held at the Forest Service Regional Office located one door north of the Travelodge, an easy walk. The hotel is on the west edge of the City, just off the 6th Ave. Freeway at Simms.



Field Trips - For all the field trips we plan to rent Vans; therefore you can leave the driving to us. The first trip will be to the Colorado Railroad Museum, recognized as one of the best privately supported rail museums in the United States. This 15-acre site features over 70 historic narrow and standard gauge locomotives and cars and lots of other memorabilia. (www.crrm.org).



Then it's on to the geologically famous Dinosaur Ridge National Natural Landmark, near Morrison, Colorado that features Jurassic dinosaur bones and Cretaceous dinosaur footprints (www.dinoridge.org). After this two hour interpreted tour we hurry off to a BBQ dinner hosted at the home of Bob and Betty Minor. But the evening is still young, so off you go to the Heritage Square Music Hall for a hilarious night of fun and music. You won't get lost, remember we are still transporting you in Vans. By now you will probably want to hit the sack because the next day is more tours.

The second trip is an all day affair, with box lunches provided. We will be traveling over the Mount Evans Scenic Byway, the highest paved road in North America. Beginning in Idaho Springs you will climb to the summit of Mount Evans at

14,264 feet, a rise of more than 7000 feet in 28 miles. And there are lots of things to see and do. The entire Front Range spreads before you in this rarefied world above timberline. The alpine area is edged at its lower elevation by photogenic krummholz habitat formed by deformed spruce and fir along with stands of bristlecone pine. There will be ample wildlife photo opportunities including shots of bighorn sheep, mountain goats, ptarmigan and



furry mammals like pikas and marmots. Agency representatives will be available to discuss both the management of this unique "Wilderness with a road through it" and the challenge of managing wildlife in a popular recreation area. The weather is unpredictable so be prepared for wind, rain, snow, and hail any day of the year. We plan to get off the mountain before the afternoon thunderstorms develop. (For more information: <http://coloradobyways.colorado.edu> (note: no www), www.wildernet.com, www.mtevans.com)

If time allows we may make a stop at Buffalo Bill's grave and Museum on Lookout Mountain.

Other Events - The field trips will alternate with workshops held in the auditorium at the Forest Service Office. Evening events will include a slide show of work submitted for the photography competition; a writing critique session; and the Saturday evening banquet, award presentation and auction.

Prices, deadlines and other general information will be announced in the next newsletter.

Questions or suggestion can be directed to the Conference Co-chairs, Betty Minor, 303-279-6828 (bettyrminor@aol.com) or Lee Carr, 970-856-4251 (dlcarr@dma.net).

Request for Conference Programs

Members - If you have a workshop program you will like to present, please contact one of the Co-chairs before the end of the year.



Mt. Evans and Summit Lake photo by Maryann Gaug

2002 Scholarship for RMOWP

Please help get the word out.

Feb. 15, 2002 is the acceptance deadline for the 2002 Scott-McKenna Memorial Scholarship. There is an entry form in this newsletter (pages 9 and 10), 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 Vice-President Jeff Pederson, who is the scholarship chairman (505) 476-8113, or jpederson@gmfsh.state.nm.us.

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.

Book Review – *The Big Fifty*

By Al Marlowe

The Big Fifty is a first novel by one of RMOWP's early members, Jay Warburton.

Even though the membership of RMOWP consists of outdoor communicators we aren't restricted to writing only on that subject. Just as professionals in other fields diversify, it makes sense for writers and photographers to do the same.

One of our members, Jay Warburton, has done just that. His first novel, *The Big Fifty*, was published in the past year, (iUniverse, Lincoln, NE, 2000). It's a fictional account of an event Warburton said occurred in Colorado Springs in the early 1960s. Even so he said that the story is intended as entertainment rather than a historical report.

The Big Fifty tells of a conflict (Note: Conflict is an important element of a novel) that arises between two high schools following a disputed championship hockey game. Students of the offended school go to great lengths to avenge the wrong they see was done to them. As I read the story I was reminded of a similar genre of movies produced in the 60s and 70s—*Smokey and The Bandit* and *The Cannonball Run*. The movies, and Warburton's novel, pit youth against inept experience. The sheriff in *The Big Fifty* reminded me of Buford T. Justice as he struggled unsuccessfully to outsmart The Bandit.

Warburton's story is fun reading, which he said is what he intended it to be. It's also a wakeup call to the membership of the importance of diversification in our writing. Since a majority in RMOWP are in the business of communicating, it's in our best interest to make writing profitable. We will succeed in that if we can write effectively on more than one subject.

At just under 200 pages, the story is a fast, entertaining read. I made it to bed late several nights in a row because the book is hard to put down.

Member News

Barb Henderson, new OWAA Board Member

Barb was recently appointed to the Outdoor Writers Association of America Board of Directors. She's one of two women on the Board, and OWAA Executive Director, Steve Wagner, reports that her viewpoint is very much appreciated. Congratulations, Barb!

Lee Allen, new OWAA Member

Lee sent an email on November 20th reporting "I am the newest member of the Outdoor Writer's Association of America." Congrats, Lee!

Cecilia Travis's Work on TV

Back in May 2001, while the Colorado Avalanche (hockey team) were in the Stanley Cup playoffs, about nine of Cecilia's slides were being shown on the A&E channel in a Kurtis Productions film titled "The Cold Case Files- Hour 18—Portrait of a Killer." The program is about a case done by a non-profit for which she volunteers. The group is NecroSearch International. They help law enforcement find homicide victims.

A book about NecroSearch, *No Stone Unturned*, written by Steve Jackson, and containing more of Cecilia's slides will be in the bookstores by mid December. Denver area members probably know Jackson's writing from "Westword."

Although the slides shown on TV were not her first book illustration, they were certainly her first time on television. Keep an eye out for a rerun of this program. Good work, Cecilia!

Tom and Buellah Bishop

Tom and Buellah will be staying in Wyoming this winter.

Randy Case Reports on Yellowfin Tuna Fishing

RMOWP member Randy faxed two articles he's written for *Discover Baja* about yellowfin tuna fishing near La Paz, Baja California Sur. A photo shows him catching a 125-pound tuna. He also describes the warm tropical breeze. Tired of snow and cold? Try yellowfin tuna fishing and then write an article to help pay for your trip. More next issue, space allowing.

Lost Members

Web master and member directory guru, Phil Springer, reports returned newsletters. If any of you know the whereabouts of Spencer Seher and Bryant Kuechle, please let Phil know at phil@rmowp.org. Kuechle was RMOWP's 2001 scholarship winner.

A newsletter addressed to Sharon Hackley from Kingman, Arizona was returned to Phil. The newsletter was marked "Deceased." Does anyone know Sharon? See page 8.

Dues Are Due Soon

It's that time of year again! Dues notices will be mailed in January.

Photographing Nature in Cold Weather

By Kenneth Wyatt © 2001

Many outdoor photographers have a tendency to "hang it up" once winter weather moves in. Overcast lighting can make for dull colors, and besides, it's darn cold out there! Well, try to resist this temptation and let's try some winter photography!

One reason you might wish to consider shooting more winter pictures is that they sell! John Shaw once told me several years ago that picture editors generally have a more difficult time finding winter images than for any other season. Where they may get flooded with "good weather" images of exotic or classic locales, winter images of the same locales are comparatively rare.

Another reason I particularly enjoy is that there are a lot fewer people out there! Several years ago, I invested in a good pair of snowshoes and I regularly tramp through the Rockies. There's nothing like hiking with a friend on a trail, or even cross-country, in the winter! The air is clear and invigorating and the chance to see many kinds of wildlife is much greater.

You've probably already read articles describing how to dress in layers, and so forth, so I'll not repeat that. What I will cover in this article is what I feel are the most important points regarding clothing, and then we'll cover some camera equipment hints and tips I've picked up from both my own, and other's experience. Finally, we'll provide some tips on winter exposures.

Clothing

Let's start off with clothing. You are no doubt familiar with the concept of dressing in layers. I'll just add a few additional thoughts. First, it's best to use synthetics or wool, rather than cotton. Cotton absorbs moisture and will tend to chill you down. Many synthetics are designed to wick away moisture allowing your body to remain warm, even during exertion. The most critical areas of the body, as far as heat loss, are the extremities – head, feet, and hands, usually in that order.

Always be sure to wear some sort of hat when you'll be out very long during winter. The head, by far, exhibits the most heat loss. I use an insulated hat with earmuffs or a stocking cap. I also use a neck wrapper when it's really cold. For my feet, I use thick hiking socks and boots. A set of nylon gaiters will keep the snow out of your boots as you walk, ski, or snowshoe. These loop under the boot and then Velcro partway up the pant leg. You'll be glad you bought these the first time you sink up to your knee in a snowdrift! Finally, I invested in some Gore-Tex overpants for longer hikes or extended stays away from vehicle or buildings.

Your hands are another matter. How do you keep them warm, yet maintain the ability to work your camera controls? There are several types of gloves that would work well for photographing in cold weather. Unless conditions are extremely cold, I use thin "glove liners", as these are thin enough to readily feel the controls. For colder conditions, I use thicker gloves with the fingertips cut off. This allows your fingers to just protrude. After a while, though, even this is insufficient. In that case, you might double up by using both the glove liners and the thicker tipless gloves over the top. Available, also, are gloves with the cutoff tips, but which have an integral finger tip cover. This cover may be folded back over the glove end to keep your fingers warmer. For really cold conditions, you'll likely need to wear winter mitts over the gloves. These mitts are generally attached to your wrists with cords, so they may be slid off and allowed to hang during periods of camera use. Finally, for extended outdoor hikes, you might consider the low-cost chemical hand and foot warmers. These run around \$1 per set and can make all the difference during chilly conditions. All this equipment may be

purchased at any good camping or backpacking supply store, such as REI, or others.

Equipment

So now that we have a handle on the proper winter clothing, what about your camera gear? The primary drawback I've found to cold weather is battery life! It's only during extreme cold weather (arctic, for example) that you need worry about the equipment itself. Let's consider the batteries first. It turns out that the chemistry that makes a battery work is greatly affected by cold. Thus, the best remedy is to simply keep them warm. I keep a couple extra battery packs in an inside jacket pocket and swap them once the camera battery starts to act sluggish.



Ken Wyatt snowshoeing to Mineral Basin in Colorado

An alternative that some photographers use in arctic conditions is to rig up an external battery pack, which is kept in a pocket close to your body. Some manufacturers sell these as an option, but if you have some knowledge of electronics, it's usually less expensive to make up your own using a spare battery holder and a length of cable. Radio Shack sells "D" cell battery holders or pocket-sized spill proof sealed lead-acid batteries. These larger batteries have enough capacity to last a very long time – even in cold weather. You'll need to ensure the selected external battery matches the voltage required by the camera, of course. Chemical hand warmers attached to the camera body or external battery pack also work well to counteract the cold.

The type of battery used is also important. Alkaline batteries don't last too long in cold weather, due to their higher internal resistance. Nickel metal hydride (NiMH) cells are better and lithium cells are best. At the very least, keep your camera inside your jacket – bringing it out only during use. For cameras, which use the newer CR2 (lithium-manganese dioxide), there are really no other alternatives. Just remember to carry extra ones close to your body for warmth.

Of course, you can avoid the whole battery issue if you use one of the older camera bodies that don't require batteries!

If your camera is very old and has not been recently serviced, the grease used to lubricate the inner workings may bind up in extremely cold weather. The fix for this is to get the camera body and lenses cleaned and lubricated with more modern grease that will fair better in colder climates. Generally, it's the shutter mechanism and aperture linkages that bind up. (Go to next page)

Cold Weather Photography continued -

I'm also told that at sub-zero temperatures, film can break if wound too quickly. Also in very dry conditions, static charges can build up and the discharge can create lightning-like patterns over your images if the film is rewound too quickly. I've experienced neither of these effects in Colorado, though.

When using a tripod, it's sometimes difficult to steady it in deep snow. Sometimes you can make use of strategic rocks or tree stumps, but generally, they aren't always where you need them. To solve this problem, it's possible to construct "snowshoes" for your tripod. First, find some crutch tips, or furniture bumpers, that will press-fit onto the ends of the tripod legs. Then find some round flat coffee can lids, or equivalent, and simply bolt them together. Use large flat washers on each side for rigidity. When needed, just slip these onto your tripod feet and set the 'pod carefully into the snow, allowing a slight compaction to occur. Always double-check the stability prior to letting go. For metal tripods, it's wise to wrap the upper legs with pipe insulation fastening it with strips of electrical or duct tape. This will prevent the metal from sucking the heat out of your hands. It also provides cushioning while carrying it on your shoulder.

Finally, some of the best mood-setting effects can be obtained during periods of snow. You'll need to make or buy a "rain bonnet" for the camera/lens combination. Laird or Tenba makes a good rain/snow cover that will fit up to a 500 mm lens. These can be obtained from L.L. Rue at 800-734-2568 for \$40 to \$90, depending on the size. You can also use a large Zip-Lock bag or shower cap. Be sure to use lens hoods to keep falling snow off the front lens element. Finally, keep your camera gear packed in insulated camera bags or Zip Lock bags when bringing them into a warm environment. This will prevent condensation from forming on lenses or bodies. Never remove a lens from a camera body until both have warmed up to room temperature.

Exposure

We've probably all heard the rule about adjusting our exposure compensation by +1.5 to +2 stops to keep snow (in bright sun) from under-exposing. While "rules of thumb" work most of the time, it's always surprising to me how much the lighting can change during winter. To ensure proper exposures, I tend to stick either with the tried and true gray card, or I use an incident light meter. Both devices assume that the lighting where I'm standing is the same as that lighting my subject, otherwise, all bets are off. I also set my camera for manual exposure, so that once I determine the setting for the given lighting condition, I can keep it there until the light changes again. There should be no reason to bracket if you have a basic understanding of exposure.

Blue sky also tends to reflect in snow, resulting in a light blue tint to your images. I like to use an 81A or 81B warming filter to counteract this. Most people also fail to realize that polarizing filters have a "cooling" effect as well. Therefore, I always suggest using an 81A filter in conjunction with the polarizer. Several companies are now selling "warming polarizers," which do the same thing.

One other thing to be aware of, especially with bright sun on snow, is that slide film can only reproduce about 5 stops of dynamic range (white to black), while print film can reproduce maybe 6 stops of dynamic range. To avoid "blowing out" the bright areas when shooting color film, you need to spotmeter the bright areas and let the shadows fall where they may. If you use the gray card or incident meter, you should be in good shape for most exposures. However, with a built-in meter, you may want to adjust the compensation as described above to insure the bright

areas don't under-expose. Sometimes a certain amount of trial and error with your favorite film is best for these cases.

So, let's get out and do some shooting this winter!

About the Author and New RMOWP Member:

Kenneth Wyatt has been photographing nature and wildlife for over 30 years and has traveled extensively throughout North America, Europe, and the South Pacific, documenting the landscapes and the wildlife living there. He has written and photographed articles about nature and travel photography for numerous technical and hobby magazines, along with newspapers and Web-based electronic magazines. He has lived in Woodland Park, CO, for 15 years and currently works as a freelance photographer and nature writer for the Ute Pass Courier, a local weekly newspaper. In addition to his writing, he conducts seminars and leads photo tours around Colorado. Mr. Wyatt is a member of the North American Nature Photography Association (NANPA), the Colorado Press Association, and the Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers. His photo gallery may be accessed at: www.wyattphoto.com and he may be reached by email at ken@wyattphoto.com or via phone at (719) 310-5418 (days).



Ken Wyatt in a slot canyon

photos provided by Ken

Newsletter Notes

By Maryann Gaug

Thanks to Ken, Jim, and Paul for sending winter photos for this issue and next. Anyone else?

When submitting articles to the newsletter, please keep them to 1200 words or less if you have an accompanying photo so they both fit on one page. For longer articles, I may serialize them. Ken Wyatt's article seemed so inclusive, I broke with that rule and included the entire piece. So get out there and take some winter shots!

Winter Writing (Typing) Hints

By Maryann Gaug

In response to my email request for ideas on keeping typing hands warm while writing, Ken Wyatt suggested purchasing some (thin) glove liners and cutting off the tips. These liners can be found in camping or backpacking stores, such as REI. I found one glove of such a pair in my basement. I can actually type without cutting off the tips.

I then added another component—a hat. So I sit and write with a tasseled hat on my head and one thin glove liner on my mouse hand. Looks dumb, but it works. Hot chocolate helps a lot, too! All because I don't want to turn the heat up past 68° F.

Supporting Member News



Doubling in size from last year's event, the Gart Sports Denver International Sportsmen's Exposition (ISE) will feature nearly 500 exhibitors when it opens its four-day run January 24 at the Colorado Convention Center. Earlier this year, ISE announced the acquisition of Denver's other sportsmen's show, produced by O'Laughlin Trade Shows.

Celebrating its 25th year in Denver, the ISE will spotlight the Rocky Mountain region's largest selection of products and services for anglers, hunters, boaters, ATVs, campers and recreational-vehicle enthusiasts, also featuring wildlife paintings, sculpture, photography, leathercraft and log furniture. Hundreds of lodges, resorts, guides and outfitters will be available to answer questions or book adventures to destinations nearby or distant.

Show highlights & Features

- Best-Of-The-West Fly-Casting Competition, with Men's, Women's and new Youth Divisions.
- Ultimate Campsite and Coleman Campfire Theater, hosted by Scott Linden of Outdoor Life Radio.
- Huge sporting-dog arena.
- Lawry's Taste of the Outdoors fish- and game-cooking demos, hosted by chef Lisa Marie Freeman.
- Adventure and Fly-Fishing theaters.
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation world record elk display.
- Fly-Tying Video Theater, hosted by local resident and world-record-holder Peter Parker.
- Colorado's own SuperTanker display of monster trout.
- Colorado Division of Wildlife Information Center.
- Colorado Taxidermy Association award-winning displays.

Web Wanderings

By Phil Springer

I review web sites related to our fields of endeavor and interests. The links to these sites and other resources are located on our web site www.rmowp.org in the "Members Only" section under "Links and Resources". I think we should be proud of ourselves...we have built a large database of resource links to aid our writers and photographers. I would appreciate if anyone can send me additional internet resources for writers and photographers. Especially photographers because we are a little light with the those links.

Write Tools (www.writetools.com)

This web site provides writing tools such as marketing tips, dictionaries, how-to site links, jobs, etc.—an excellent resource for

ISE Show Facts

Admission: \$9; Youth 12 and under are admitted for free

Hours: Noon until 9pm Thursday and Friday, Jan. 24-25

10am until 8pm Saturday, Jan. 26

10am until 5pm Sunday, Jan. 27

Discount coupons at Front Range Gart Sports; FREE Parking & Shuttles from Coors Field

More information at www.sportsexpos.com

From John Kirk, Director of communications
International Sportsmen's Expositions

John also requests that all RMOWP members who wish to report on the show can request free tickets and more info from him via email: johnk@sportsexpos.com

MapTech's New Product

Maptech (Amesbury, MA) releases an elegant all-in-one solution to its Pocket Navigator software by adding a GPS sleeve by NAVMAN for the Compaq iPAQ. The Pocket Navigator/GPS Solution gives you access to detailed USGS topographic maps, NOAA nautical charts and FAA aeronautical charts (sold separately) with a direct GPS hardware integration. Whether you rely on maps and charts for work or recreation the new Pocket Navigator/GPS Solution offers real-time moving map display in your hand showing the highest quality, detailed cartography available.

Pocket Navigator software works with Terrain Navigator (complete US coverage of topographic maps), Digital ChartKit (official NOAA charts of US waters) and IFR/VFR AeroChartpacks (FAA official nationwide aeronautical charts). Quickly transfer them to your handheld Pocket PC. Pocket Navigator works with any Pocket PC. The GPS sleeve is only available for the iPAQ Pocket PC at this time. See what it looks like at www.maptech.com.

Editor's Note: The Compaq iPAQ just slips into a 12-channel GPS receiver (sleeve) that also has a Compact Flash slot for more memory.

any writer interested in marketing their work.

U.S. Forest Service (www.fs.fed.us/fishing)

If you like to fish, as I do, this is a good resource of our U.S. Forest Service areas throughout the country for fishing sites. Don't forget every fishing trip can be a story for someone.

Funds for Writers (www.fundsforwriters.com)

This is a comprehensive site of resources for writers with funding opportunities from grants to actual jobs. How-to articles, writing links, etc.

Please inform me of any other sites that you believe could be helpful or of interest to the membership of RMOWP. I will review them and as web master, I will post them on our web site. Please send me the links at phil@rmowp.org.