

# Rocky Mountain Outdoors

The Newsletter of Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers



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- Your article and pic could be in here! Send 'em to the editor, see p. 3

## Get Out There

Fall is a big time for change — of seasons, the too-soon end of summer, back to school, time to get out the winter wear and recreation gear, and tackle those indoor home projects. The fresh breeze and chill in the air inspires me one minute to bundle up and shut out the cold, but in another to embrace the energy it brings and tackle things with new enthusiasm and purpose.

It's been a time of many changes for RMOWP, but much continuity remains, and many opportunities for each of us to begin or renew our commitment to and in-

volvement with this group of interesting and accomplished outdoor-loving people.

That love of the outdoors inspires us to enjoy it as much as possible, and compels us to want to share those places and experiences with others through our words, images, and activities. And sharing with your fellow members is a great way to give and receive the support and camaraderie that can help keep you inspired and successful.

So get out there and enjoy!  
Cindy Stone, Editor



*Photo by Cindy Stone*

View of Mt. Bierstadt from the Geneva Mountain warming hut on a snowshoe trail in Colorado's Front Range area just west of Denver.



## From the President



John Catsis,  
RMOWP President

### There Are No Winners

By now you should have all received the letter Vice President Barbara Laine and I sent each member on October 10, explaining what transpired during the summer.

What transpired, essentially, was a difference in philosophy. It involved two factions — if I can use that word — each with different ideas on how RMOWP should be organized and operated.

The two sides are clearly recognizable. One is the “old guard” that has molded RMOWP into an organization that welcomes any and all individuals who have any kind of interest in communicating the outdoor experience. This includes hunters, fishers, hikers, campers, birders, and so on. It includes the skilled and the wannabees.

The other side felt RMOWP should be “more professional”, that it should have higher membership standards than presently exist. The other side may also have emphasized hunting and fishing to a greater degree, as evidenced by the interests of its newest members. And while there are no residency requirements for joining RMOWP, the other side’s most active new members all came from east of the Mississippi River.

Is our side right and theirs wrong? Not at all. Each has a point of view that should be respected. But as was shown this past summer, these two philosophies found it difficult to co-exist in one organization. Therefore, it was probably wise for those new members to have decided RMOWP was not for them. In fact, since their resignations, there has been a rumor that a new outdoor communicators organization may be formed. If it comes to pass, I would assume it would have higher membership standards. Some might call it snob appeal.

As I see it, that’s just fine. I wish them well. There should be room for both types. Here’s why: There are only five states west of the Mississippi that have state outdoor organizations. They are California, Kansas, Missouri, Texas and New Mexico. Of those, only New Mexico is actually part of the Rocky Mountains. The Rocky Mountain states that have no local organizations are Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming.

The significance of RMOWP, therefore, takes on greater meaning. As I see it, Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers, Inc. should represent the needs of aspiring and accomplished outdoor communicators. We must assume the role of a state group, that in all but one instance, simply does not exist.

New Mexico Outdoor Writers and Photographers, at last count, had 38 members. Multiply that by the other seven states and you have the potential of 266 members.

We’re halfway there.

John Catsis  
RMOWP President



## ALL ABOUT US

### About RMOWP

Formed in 1973, the Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers, Inc. is a regional organization of professional and aspiring communicators dedicated to the improvement of communicating the outdoor experience. Through written, photographic and artistic expression, members provide information about the recreational and natural resources found in the Rocky Mountain West. Visit our website at [www.rmowp.org](http://www.rmowp.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)  
Helen Shields (2004)

Medical Advisor  
Dr. Beto Gutierrez

#### Past-Presidents' Council

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

#### Awards Chair

Open

#### Scholarship Chair

Jeff Pederson

#### Newsletter Editor

Cindy Stone

#### Webmaster

Cindy Stone

### About the Newsletter

RMOWP publishes the Rocky Mountain Outdoors newsletter bi-monthly.

Share your outdoor 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 writing and photography profes-

sionals. We'd love to get craft improvement tips and articles, and photos to go with articles and news!

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

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

#### Next Newsletter Deadline December 15 2002

*Please send submissions by this date for the Jan/Feb 2003 issue.*

#### Cover title bar photo:

Rock formations in Roxborough Park SW of Denver, CO. Photo by Cindy Stone.



*Contribute to your newsletter!*



## MEMBER NEWS &amp; EVENTS

*Calling All Volunteers!*

President John Catsis is urging RMOWP members to step up and volunteer for several openings.

Two openings exist on the Board of Directors to fill vacancies that would have expired in 2003. One vacancy exists for a term expiring in 2004, and two board openings are available which will end in 2005.

Serving on the board is a responsibility that involves attending regular meetings at the individual's expense, and serving on one or more committees if asked to do so. While having access to email is a useful tool, it is not a requirement, either as a board member or for any other official posi-

tion.

The President also is seeking to fill the Awards Chair position. This individual oversees the writing and photography competitions. The Awards Chair publishes the rules for the next competitions, (which is little more than a duplicate of the previous year's rules, except for dates and submission addresses). He or she also selects judges, puts on the photo slide show held on the opening night of our conference, and oversees the awards ceremonies at the closing banquet.

If you are interested in serving in any of these capacities, contact John at

[johncatsis@hotmail.com](mailto:johncatsis@hotmail.com), 480-539-0484, or 300 W. Straford Dr., Chandler, AZ 85225-7117.

Meanwhile, Lee Carr, Chair of the Past President's Council, will soon be seeking candidates for the following positions: All three board positions which expire in 2003, and the officer positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

If you wish to be a candidate for any of the above, contact Lee at [dlcarr@dmca.net](mailto:dlcarr@dmca.net) or at 970-261-8609.

*New Appointment*

President John Catsis has appointed Helen Shields of Tularosa, New Mexico to the RMOWP Board of Directors, to serve until 2005. Helen has been a Secretary/Treasurer and Board Member in the past.

*Conference Reminders*

Remember to mark your calendar and start making plans to attend next year's RMOWP Conference tentatively planned to be held in Lander, Wyoming on Sep 3-6, 2003. More details will be announced as plans progress!

Also for those interested, the OWAA Conference will be coming up next summer in Columbia, Missouri from June 14 to 18, 2003.



## MEMBER NEWS &amp; EVENTS

*Sign Up Now! 2003 Photo Workshops*

Enrollment is open for next year's RMOWP outdoor photography workshops to anyone wanting to improve their skills.

Workshops will again be held at the ideal natural classroom, Rocky Mountain National Park at Estes Park, Colorado. Vivid scenery and abundant wildlife provide memorable photographic opportunities.

Some key features of the workshops include:

- 5 days of instruction and practice in small classes
- Pro secrets for obtaining quality nature and wildlife photos under various conditions
- Processing and spontaneous feedback on photos for immediate skill improvement

Workshop dates are **June 26-30** and **Sep. 29-Oct. 3**. Click on the Workshops link on our website for more information and testimonials about the workshops.

Enroll now, and pass the word on to your friends, family, colleagues, and aspiring photographers who may be interested!

**"The workshop changed my life. It was a perfect setting, a lot of fun, and with great companionship."**

**Dr. James Baker, OK**

*Susan Reneau Hits the Airwaves*

Member Susan Campbell Reneau, author of the hardcover book, **COLORADO'S BIGGEST BUCKS AND BULLS and Other Great Colorado Big Game**, Second Edition, was a guest on the 50,000-watt radio station, KOA of Denver, on Friday, Oct. 25, talking to hundreds of thousands of listeners in 38 states about the value of hunting and the contributions hunters make to the economy of Colorado.

Susan is one of four leaders in the newly formed group, Colorado Wildlife Defense Political Action Committee, to introduce legislation into the Colorado General Assembly that will seriously restrict the activities of elk and deer game farms. If you would like to interview Susan regarding her efforts to rid the 850,000 wild deer and elk of Colorado of chronic wasting disease and other serious diseases from game farm animals, call her at 719-568-2343 or e-mail her at [bluemountain7155@aol.com](mailto:bluemountain7155@aol.com). Her web site is [www.coloradobucksandbulls.com](http://www.coloradobucksandbulls.com).

*Wanderin' Jon Sheppard*

Jon Sheppard, award winning author and photographer, loves the great outdoors. He especially loves the backcountry of the West. Any time of the year you will find him traveling the highways, the by-ways and not so good trails that bring you to a beautiful land of enchantment.

Typical on his widely varied schedule, one day he may be photographing birds wintering at Bosque Del Apache NWF in central New Mexico. The times to be there are from Dec. to March. You will witness hundreds of thousands of Canadian geese,

(cont. on p. 9)



## MEMBER NEWS &amp; EVENTS

*Board Meeting Highlights*

As stated in the letter sent to you about a month ago by President John Catsis and Vice President Barbara Laine, much was accomplished at the September 21 board meeting held in Trinidad, Colorado. Here are some of the highlights:

Joe Roybal and Joel Evans were appointed by the President to fill two vacancies on the board of directors.

The dates of the Lander, Wyoming Conference were tentatively set for September 3-6, 2003, pending availability of hotel accommodations. Tom Bishop has agreed to head up local arrangements. All members are asked to provide ideas for craft improvement sessions. And for the first time, the board approved spending up to \$500 as honoraria for speakers or workshop leaders.

The situation over membership standards is unresolved. The board tabled action until the next meeting, to permit the opportunity to clear up our status with the IRS.

A Legal Committee was appointed to work on the above-mentioned situation. The members are Catsis, C. Springer, Marlowe and Christopherson. (Since the meeting, all but Catsis have resigned from the board.)

The board approved new by-law language that would permit greater flexibility for conducting official business; namely by permitting the conduct of business by

using telephone conference calls and email. The by-law change must be approved by the full membership before taking effect.

The official "office" of the organization shall be that of the Treasurer, on a one year trial basis.

The board approved holding two photo workshops next year. Both will be held at Rocky Mountain National Park. The dates are June 26-30 and Sept. 28 to Oct.

3.

Karen Christopherson was appointed to design a new membership card.

The Vice President will now be the chair of the Membership Committee, which is to include the Webmaster and the Treasurer.

Cindy Stone agreed to serve as newsletter editor. Following the board meeting she also agreed to take on the additional duty of Webmaster.

The President announced he had dissolved the Editorial Board that he said had been created illegally at the previous Board Meeting. Future assessments of the newsletter editor, he said, would be performed once a year as part of an annual personnel review by the Board of Directors, the first of which was held at the Trinidad meeting. Since Ms. Stone had just started, she was not part of the review, but the then-current webmaster and executive director were. Both were approved by the board. (It should be pointed out that both later resigned from the organization.)

Barbara Laine was elected Vice President. (Later, when Al Marlowe resigned as Treasurer, but not as a member, Laine assumed the duties of acting Treasurer.)

The President pressed for creation of an official mission statement, which this organization has never had. Carr, Swanger and Roop were asked to serve on a Mission Statement Committee. Only Carr remains as a member of the organization at this writing.

The board discussed possible locations for the 2004 conference and indicated an interest in returning to Durango, the site of our 1986 conference. An individual is needed to serve as conference coordinator.

For 2005, the feeling of the board was to hold the conference either in Arizona, New Mexico, or southern Utah.

It was agreed to hold the next board meeting in Albuquerque on Saturday, March 15, 2003. This may change, as the site previously selected is no longer available. Vice President Laine has offered to host the meeting at her home in suburban Taos.





## CRAFT IMPROVEMENT

*Pricing a Photo Assignment*

By Denny L. Vasquez

First, this article is not directed at those who are about to embark on a three-month assignment for National Geographic or other similar high-profile publications. The photographers who get assignments like these are typically pros with a lot of experience negotiating fees or have agents who handle this for them.

Rather, this article is intended for those of us who may get an assignment from a small newspaper editor, a special interest magazine, or a conservation organization newsletter. It discusses the basic concepts of negotiating with an editor to determine how much to charge for your work.

Usually a smaller publication will have on-going relationships with freelance photographers, also called stringers, to cover local events such as a county fair. For example, you may establish a relationship with a newspaper editor by selling an occasional photo of local events to the newspaper. Once the editor becomes familiar with you, he or she may then call on you to cover upcoming events.

The publication probably has an established "day rate" for paying freelancers. These day rates are often divided into two types: a half-day rate for shorter assignments, and a full-day rate for longer ones. One of the hardest aspects of negotiating a rate to cover an assignment is the definition of the amount of time that the rate covers. Most editors that I have worked with have a standard definition of what a working day consists of. It may be from 6 a.m. until 8 p.m., or include 10 hours in a 24-hour period. If you find that the assignment is going to run longer than the defined time period, or if it will include unusual hours like 6 p.m. to 3 a.m., then

it is appropriate for you to negotiate for additional compensation.

In some instances, the duration of an assignment cannot be determined before hand and you will have to finalize your fees after the event has concluded. In this case, stay in contact with the editor to ensure that they are aware of what has been involved and the time that you have been working.

When negotiating an assignment, you may find that the standard rate is below what you judge the work to be worth. You have to determine if the value of possible future assignments with this editor makes it worthwhile to accept the assignment and rate. There is no reason to under sell yourself, but you may have to prove yourself to the editor before you can expect higher rates. Once you have become a "star" in the eyes of the editor, then you can negotiate for an increase in your rate.

Be aware that the day rate does not necessarily cover other costs involved with the assignment. It may be necessary to ask for a rate adjustment if the assignment takes longer than expected, or to cover travel expenses and other incidentals that may arise. Let's look at these adjustments.

When travel is involved, it is best to determine who will cover these expenses before accepting the assignment. For example, once I covered a regional livestock show for a local weekly newspaper. One of the finalists was a local youngster and the editor wanted me to do a piece on her entry in the show. The assignment involved a drive of over six hours from my home to the show, an overnight stay, a seven and a half hour drive to the newspaper to deliver my film, and a 1

½ hour drive home. Before accepting this assignment, I negotiated with the editor a rate of .32¢ per mile for mileage and \$75.00 for meals and lodging.

What other expenses should you negotiate to have covered? Besides mileage, lodging and meals, expenses may include tolls, taxis, batteries, airfare, film, film processing, insurance, etc. Be sure to address possible expenses during the negotiation and before accepting an assignment, and keep a record and justification for all expenses.

Be sure to discuss any special or unusual equipment needs with the editor before agreeing to the assignment. Don't expect the editor to pay for something that you decide you need or want and then purchase for the job. Ask the editor if the publication has the equipment and if you can borrow it for the assignment. Have a stipulation in your contract about whose responsibility is to satisfy any special equipment needs that may arise during the assignment.

Rather than using a day rate fee structure, many of the publications that I work with pay based upon the number and size of photos that they use. Most will have a standard rate for a cover photo, full-page internal photo, half page photo, on down to a one-column photo size. It is important to understand these rates, what kind of photos the editor is looking for, and how many and what size are anticipated to be published. With this knowledge you can calculate your approximate income from the assignment and then determine if you are willing to accept it or not.

Depending on the size of the

(cont. on p.9)



## MEMBER ARTICLES

*Caribou in the Tundra**by Ron Hellbusch*

"The hunt and the experiences in this remote area were about to begin..."

When the 10 seated Twin Otter aircraft made its sharp bank to land on what appeared to be nothing more than a long flat rock plateau at our hunting camp site in north west Quebec, Canada, I felt the excitement swell. We observed a small herd of caribou on our 55-minute flight from Kuujuaq. For me a plan, a dream was becoming a reality. For years I have envisioned hunting caribou in the true tundra region of far north Canada. The time was here. The hunt and the experiences in this remote area were about to begin.

My two sons and I made a decision in February 2001 at Denver's International Sportsman's Show to take the step, make the commitment to hunt caribou in the tundra region of northern Canada. As the Twin Otter made its final approach, Mark and I exchanged a big grin and a high five, along with our cousin Scott who lives in Nebraska and two local hunting companions. Between the time Mark, Jay and I made the down payment at the Sportsman's show and our departure August 29<sup>th</sup>, my oldest son embarked on a new career as a Helena, Montana police officer. He completed the Montana Law Enforcement Academy and was busy in his new career and had no vacation this year.

Our group of five were assigned the Tasitac Camp some 115 miles west and north from Kuujuaq. That assignment, like so many big and small events on this trip, was our good fortune. There were a lot of caribou in the area, the facilities were comfortable, the guides knowledgeable and helpful and the food outstanding. Tasitac is located in the Nunavut Providence of Quebec. The weather was typical we were told. Wind all the time, only a matter of velocity, which ranged between 10 and 40 miles per hour. Rain or mist on and off all day and night. Fortunately there were few mosquitos. The guidance of the outfitter was sound. We had rain repellent jackets and

pants, rubber boots, layered clothing, water repellent gloves and other hunting needs to fit the average early September weather that averaged mid-40 degrees. The nights were cooler, but not uncomfortable.

There is no drought in Quebec, at least at the 58<sup>th</sup> parallel where we spent our time. "Water, water everywhere..." as the poet said, but in this case most of it for drink. It is just a matter of size of water bodies. They ranged from a small pond we walked across to lakes larger than Dillon Reservoir, and they were dotted continually along the terrain as far as the eye could see. We trolled in small, outboard equipped fishing boats for lake trout and inland char and caught 6 over 24 inches. The terrain is covered with lichen, which is a fungus as opposed to a true plant. Lichen is the caribou's staple food. The region is treeless, matted with berry brush, moss, rocks, tundra grass and small clear flowing streams matching the rolling surface of the vast flat tundra mass.

The caribou were in the velvet, enhancing the view of the bulls even at distances of a mile away. The individual animals or small herds forage on the lichen as they move steadily and earnestly southward over the rolling tundra terrain. Cows have small antlers, while the mature bulls carry magnificent racks. Unlike the impression many have of herds numbering into the thousands, trekking in single file across the vast openness, the caribou in this region migrate southward in small herds, even solo, consuming the lichen as they move and forage without stopping to the southern winter ranges.

We traveled 5,891 miles round trip, nearly 900 of those miles were within Quebec from Montreal North to Kuujuaq. We captured the six days on yards of videotape and hundreds of photos both print and slide film, filled our licenses and enjoyed the remoteness of this far north landscape.



## *Wanderin' Jon Sheppard (from p. 5)*

sand hill cranes, ducks and a few eagles here and there. Jon says, "I was lucky to also observe the fattest coyotes around too."

A few days later he may be photographing wild horses in the Great Divide Basin in Wyoming. The horses run in small packs and they have their own pecking order at the watering holes. They are normally very shy of people, so you do need some long lenses. Any time of the year is a good time to be there, but beware of the remoteness of the area. This is one of the most desolated places in the country. Driving is not difficult but you do need to know where you are going. The BLM people in Rawlins can give you great help.

When Jon is home in the winter, you will find him skiing the high country of Colorado. He and two friends hold a world's record of skiing eighteen ski areas in one day. In the summer he climbs the highest mountains around. On those trips he travels light with camera equipment. Photographing a herd of elk, deer, or mountain goats is always fun and a great thrill. "To catch predator birds is a great

challenge. You usually need a long lens and I don't carry the big ones on long steep trails," says Jon.

Or you may find him rafting down an isolated river canyon, taking photos in majestic isolated canyons. He has been a river guide for many years, and enjoys photographing folks fishing on clear mountain streams or on a still mountain lake at sunrise or sunset. Many times he will go out with friends and wonder off to get some great shots of them in a stunning setting.

Jon also loves to share his talents and time with others. He does single- or multi-day photography seminars where he teaches people how to take pictures. He also hosts trail rides where everyone has an opportunity to photograph the Colorado high country and wild life in the area.

His motto is, "taking pictures of wildlife, scenic landscapes or historic mining towns is fun and a joy to do". You may contact Jon at PO Box 18101, Avon, CO, 81620, 970 8949 9131. His website is at [www.jonsheppardphotography.com](http://www.jonsheppardphotography.com).



## *Pricing a Photo Assignment (from p. 7)*

assignment, the publication may offer you a combination of the day rate fee structure and pay per photo fee structure. You agree to a set standard daily rate structure for the assignment, but if the pay would have been higher based upon the actual photos they run, they will pay you the higher per photo rate instead. This arrangement can be beneficial to both you and the publication as it provides you an incentive to take better pictures in the hope that you will be better compensated. On the other hand the publication is protected because they are only obligated to pay you the daily rate if your photos do not meet their expectations.

Keep in mind that there are thousands of publications to whom you can sell your work and each of them have their own specific policies for determining what to pay for photos. Discuss the assignment and fee with the editor and ask questions and to clearly understand what's involved. Negotiation and the ability to strike a compromise that works for both parties are skills that are vital for the photographer who wants to be published regularly.

**"Negotiation and the ability to strike a compromise...are vital for the photographer who wants to be published regularly".**



## MEMBER ARTICLES

*Westminster's Forgotten Drought* by Ron Hellbusch

The year was 1962. Westminster's domestic water supply had evolved from a ground water source up to 1958, which provided high quality water from the Arapahoe Sands aquifer up to a surface water supply. The City's first water treatment plant located at 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Raleigh Street was relatively new, designed around the best of water treatment technology and was well staffed and managed when it went online in 1958. Surface water rights were acquired by the City in the Kershaw Irrigation Ditch Company and diverted from Clear Creek at Tennyson Street. The Kershaw water rights were pumped into a pipeline that extended from the Clear Creek to the England Water Treatment Plant.

Clear Creek snow packs during the first few years following 1958 were near normal in the Loveland Pass and Berthoud Pass watersheds. This period of history did not enjoy the benefits of the Denver Metro Reclamation District regional wastewater treatment plant, which was constructed in 1968 at the confluence of Clear Creek and South Platte River. Coors Brewing Company, the Cities of Golden and Arvada, and a number of sanitation districts discharged effluent upstream from Westminster's Kershaw Water Diversion and pipeline. In the years of normal snow pack and resulting high volume runoff in Clear Creek there was not water quality problems.

1962, like 2002, was a dry year. A year that produced only minimal snow pack and resulting low spring and summer runoff flows in Clear Creek. While the stream flows were dangerously low, the wastewater treatment plant discharges were contributing average volumes of effluent to Clear Creek. The result was high concentrations of effluent with odor and taste problems that accompany the wastewater treatment plant discharges.

As the water spare spring moved into early summer the quality of the Kershaw water became increasingly degraded. While

the City's water treatment plant produced safe water, the water did have a slightly foreign taste and an odor. By June a variety of concerns began to develop. City officials were concerned about insufficient quantities of water to meet demand and the gradual decline in the raw water quality and resulting treatment concerns. The citizen's became very vocal about the growing taste and odor present in the city water system.

The day came when there was lack of sufficient water quantity to meet summer demands. The City curtailed all outdoor watering for two weeks. At the same time the taste and odor problem grew out of control and citizen calls to city council and city hall staff intensified. It was this particular summer the infamous "Mother's March on City Hall" occurred. Mothers with children in strollers converged on city hall. One can clearly imagine the controversy and crisis the City experienced at that time. The steps the City embarked upon that summer are interesting in the scheme of history.

Strict watering restrictions were put in place for the remainder of the summer. The City leased, for the first time, agricultural water rights from The Standley Lake Farmers Reservoir and Irrigation Company (FRICo) stockholders. The 1962 drought forced farmers to refrain from planting crops or abandon crops already planted. The City leases of their water shares for that season proved to be a "win-win" for both the farmers and citizens of Westminster. Those water rights were carried around Standley Lake in a series of ditches below the lake and through the City, to the England Water Treatment Plant.

The City Council took a bold and somewhat untested step that year. A contract was awarded to a cloud seeding firm in hopes of generating some summer rains. The drought was so severe for local residents there was neither objection nor criticism by the public or media generally. There were a number of

(cont. next page)

"A contract was awarded to a cloud seeding firm in hopes of generating some summer rains. The drought was so severe for local residents there was neither objection nor criticism by the public or media generally."



## SUPPORTING MEMBER NEWS

*Request for Photo Donations*

Supporting member organization Blue Ribbon Coalition is looking for photographs to be donated to their non-profit organization for a calendar. They are seeking shots of dramatic scenery, preferably of areas that allow motorized recreation, especially those that are threatened with closure to motorized vehicles. The deadline is Jan. 15, 2003, and the person to contact for more details is Bob Stevenson, 348 Greenway Ct, Bozeman, MT, 59718. You can call Bob at 406-585-8252, or at work at 406-586-1511. Or you may email Cindy Stone at [cindy@rmowp.org](mailto:cindy@rmowp.org) and she can forward an email to you with information about photo specifications. Learn more about the coalition at [www.sharetrails.org](http://www.sharetrails.org).

*Update on Maptech Products*

Here are a few products that may appeal to you outdoor adventurers who have a computer or just love gadgets. The Maptech MapServer allows you to view, print, and email USGS topographic maps and NOAA nautical charts, and it's free. Maptech has a new price for Terrain Navigator, the standard by which writers compare all other USGS topographic map CD-ROM products. It includes complete US coverage, 3-D maps, is GPS ready, and more. And now a totally new Terrain Navigator Pro is available. It combines aerial photos at 1-meter resolution with USGS topos at 1:24/25,000 and 100,000 scales, and enables you to organize outings with innovative GeoPins. Find out more at [www.maptech.com](http://www.maptech.com).

*Westminster's Forgotten Drought**(from p. 10)*

rainstorms following the cloud seeding operation that took the edge off the otherwise dry summer. The city credited cloud seeding, the skeptics credited Mother Nature.

That year, that drought prompted a redirection of Westminster's water supply planning. Water shares in other adjoining agriculture water systems were acquired. The following year, the City began negotiations with the FRICo Board of Directors that ultimately led to an agreement wherein Westminster enlarged the capacity of Standley Lake. The dam was raised from 30,000 acre feet storage capacity to 42,000 acre-

feet, with the City acquiring its first raw water storage capability.

Droughts occur. Sometimes with a degree of predictability; other times with little warning. Sometimes they appear without a clear transition from a normal moisture year to a dry year. The 1962 drought was unannounced. Neither Westminster nor the other Clear Creek water users had any early warnings. But the 1962 drought produced a new direction in Westminster's water supply planning, one which has proven sound and well defined for the City's future long term development.



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We're on the web at  
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The Newsletter of Rocky Mountain Outdoor Writers and Photographers

## RMOWP Calendar

2002	
Dec	Happy Holidays!
2003	
June 14-18	OWAA Conference Columbia MO
June 26-30	RMOWP Photo Workshop 1 Rocky Mtn Natl Park Estes Park CO
Sep 17-20	RMOWP Conference Lander WY
Sep 29-Oct 3	RMOWP Photo Workshop 2 Rocky Mtn Natl Park Estes Park CO

### Communicate With RMOWP!

Share your outdoor 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](mailto:cindy@rmowp.org)  
1352 Chardonnay Dr  
Richland WA 99352-7303  
Fax & Phone: 509-627-4747

### Next Newsletter Deadline December 15 2002

*Please send submissions by this date  
for the Jan/Feb 2003 issue.*