# 44th ANNUAL

# FLY TYING CLINIC

February 8, 2020 | 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Jefferson County Fairgrounds

WEST DENVER TROUT UNLIMITED

Design by DOMOTO

# HE'S BACK!

## JONATHAN WALTER — TABLE 69

Jonathan Walter is back this year with two fly casting sessions. Jonathan is an avid fly fisher, and a Fly Fishers International Master Certified Casting Instructor. He offers private and group instruction tailored to individual needs.

Check him out at www.clearcreekflycasting.com.

# SCHEDULE

| TIME | ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS | LOCATION |
|---|---|---|
| 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM | • Our Expert Tyers<br>• "Hands On" Tying Area<br>• Bucket Raffle<br>• Fantasy Raffle<br>• Book Sale<br>• Rummage Sale<br>• Silent Auction | Main Event Hall |
| 11:00 AM | Jonathan Walter Casting Class | Outside |
| 1:00 PM | Jonathan Walter Casting Class | Outside |
| 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM | Lunch by Nosh Catering | Front Kitchen |
| 10:30 AM – 2:30 PM | Fly Tying Theater Demos | Conference Rooms A & B, Downstairs |

| FLY TYING THEATER DEMOS<br>**THEATER A** | | |
|---|---|---|
| 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM | Tim Jacobs | Deer Hair Bass Bug |
| 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM | Michele White | Michele's Can Can Girl |
| 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM | Phil Iwane | Extended Body Mayfly, No Mercy Midge |
| 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM | Carl Pennington | Golden Stone, Biot Emerger, Quill Baetis |

| FLY TYING THEATER DEMOS<br>**THEATER B** | | |
|---|---|---|
| 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM | Jason Haddix | Streamers/Soft Hackles |
| 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM | Steve Maldonado | Wally Wing PMD Emerger |
| 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM | Rick Takahashi | Signature Patterns |
| 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM | Jane Retherford | All About Tying With Foam |

| **"HANDS ON" AREA** | | |
|---|---|---|
| 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM | Bob Artale | |
| | Joe Brenton | Brenton Marketing |
| | Kathy Brenton | |
| | Dan Pass | Catch and Release Real Estate |
| | Kassen Pass | |

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# PARTICIPATING TYERS

| NAME | TABLE | AFFILIATION |
|---|---|---|
| Sue Armstrong | 3 | |
| Ben Baxter | 38 | Anglers All |
| Tyler Boroff | 63 | |
| Jim (Jimbo) Busse | 4 | |
| Joe Butler | 26 | |
| Kerry Caraghar | 20 | Blue Quill Anglers |
| Nancy Cloos Nettell | 24 | |
| Charlie Craven | 31 | Charlie's Flybox |
| Herman deGala | 35 | |
| Pat Dorsey | 21 | |
| Joseph Egry | 48 | Dragon Fly Fishing |
| Chuck Esch | 45 | |
| Greg Garcia | 37 | Anglers All |
| Bob Getz | 8 | |
| Eli Gonzales | 49 | Los Pinos Fly Shop |
| Jason Haddix | 6 | |
| Pat Higgins | 7 | Bear Creek Fly Fishing |
| Roger Hill | 5 | |
| Eric Ishiwata | 36 | |
| Phil Iwane | 12 | |
| Tim Jacobs | 28 | Tim Jacobs Fly Fishing |
| Stephen Johnson | 33 | |
| John Keefover | 19 | Blue Quill Anglers |
| Bill Kirk | 13 | |
| Chris Krueger | 17 | Rocky Mountain Fly Design |
| Kevin Le | 43 | Arbor Anglers |

# PARTICIPATING TYERS

| NAME | TABLE | AFFILIATION |
|---|---|---|
| Steve Maldonado | 34 | |
| Dennis Martin | 23 | Willow Fly Anglers |
| David Lee McElwain | 22 | Trout Burn Press @ Creations |
| Mark McMillan | 18 | Fly Angling Adventures |
| Graham Moran | 25 | |
| Walt Mueller | 15 | Otter's Soft Milking Egg |
| Vinny Pachelli | 40 | Golden River Sports |
| Dan Pass | 59 | Catch & Release Real Estate |
| Kassen Pass | 61 | |
| Carl Pennington | 2 | |
| Eric Pettine | 39 | Pettine Fly Fishing Ent. |
| Richard Pilatzke | 41 | |
| Juan Ramirez | 1 | Hopper Juan Fly Fishing |
| Jane Retherford | 44 | |
| Steve Rogers | 50 | |
| Steve Schweitzer | 14 | |
| Dick Shinton | 27 | Laughing Grizzly Fly Shop |
| Marty Staab | 16 | |
| Scott Stisser | 47 | Open Flies |
| Dave Student | 32 | Umpqua Feather Merchants |
| Kiefer Stumpp | 29 | |
| Rick Takahashi | 11 | |
| Son Tao | 30 | |
| Charles Vestal | 46 | |
| Frank Whispell | 42 | |
| Michele White | 10 | |
| Tom Zeigler | 9 | |

## ABOUT OUR TYERS

All participating tyers at the Fly Tying Clinic are here by invitation only and all are from the Rocky Mountain region. At the event, they donate their time and materials. Please feel free to watch and interact with them. When you buy their flies, all proceeds are donated to West Denver Trout Unlimited.

## ABOUT THE EVENT

Funds raised at the Fly Tying Clinic support our Chapter's conservation efforts, including Clear Creek fish habitat improvement, restoration of native greenbacks, River Watch water quality monitoring, high lakes limnology studies, and stream temperature monitoring.

This event also funds community outreach programs, including Windy Peak Outdoor Lab School, Trout in the Classroom, Colorado State University Annual Scholarship, the Trout Unlimited Youth Conservation Camp, and Lakewood and Arvada fishing days.

**Share your experiences at today's event and tag your photos with #WDTUFlyTyingClinic**

# THANKS TO THESE DONORS OF SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT AND TRIPS

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Steve Stisser
Walt Mueller
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# THANKS TO OUR FLY SHOPS FOR THEIR CONTINUING SUPPORT

Angler's All
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Minturn Fly Shop
Mountain Angler
Orvis
Peak Fly Shop
Roaring Fork Anglers
Rocky Mountain Anglers
Royal Gorge Anglers
South Platte Anglers
Sportsman's Warehouse
Kirk's Fly Shop
St. Peter's Fly Shop
Steamboat Flyfisher
Straightline Outdoor Sports
Taylor Creek Fly Shop
The Colorado Angler
The Drift Fly Shop
Trouts Fly Fishing

# OUR TYERS

## SUE ARMSTRONG — TABLE 3

Sue's first exposure to fly tying was when she was about 8 years old, after she attended a sportsman's exposition in Phoenix. She watched a young man tying flies and thought, "I want to do that!" After moving to Denver in 1981. she enrolled in a fly fishing class taught by Dick Reeves, the founder of Front Range Anglers in Boulder. Within the past ten years, the woven hair hackle flies of George Grant have captured her heart. Though they are not fished much anymore, Sue enjoys teaching the history behind these flies and the unique techniques involved.

## BEN BAXTER — TABLE 38

Ben is a third generation Colorado native. He has been working at Angler's All fly shop for four and a half years now. He has helped the shop put out a number of instructional fly tying videos. He is always excited to attend the Clinic and has been doing so for over a decade now. He has greatly benefited from the event having attended on both sides of the tying tables. He says this is by far his favorite event of the year being a tier in the industry, that is fly fishing, in this wonderful state of Colorado.

WEBSITE: www.anglersall.com
INSTAGRAM: @bencofisherman

# OUR TYERS

## TYLER BOROFF — TABLE 63

Tyler is a full time fly designer, fly fisher, father, and guide. He tied his first fly at age three. He quickly realized that fly fishing would change his life. He then decided to concentrate on fly tying and perfecting his craft. By sharing his passion, Tyler hopes to instill in others a genuine love for the water and the beautiful creatures that live therein. He designs flies for Fulling Mill, and is on the pro staffs of @ninjaflyfishing and @douglasoutdoors.

## JIM (JIMBO) BUSSE — TABLE 4

Jimbo has been tying flies since about 1969. He worked at The Colorado Angler for over 20 years teaching fly tying, fly fishing school, and guiding. Jimbo has been tying at the Fly Tying Clinic for over 30 years and looks forward to it each year.

# OUR TYERS

## JOE BUTLER — TABLE 26

Joe has been a guide and instructor in Colorado for over 30 years. Known as "Big Trout Joe," he has held several world records for large fish caught on fly rods. Joe has written several books, including *Big Trout on Flies*. He has been featured on *Colorado Outdoors* and *The Fishing Hole*. He is a featured speaker at the ISE. Joe currently hosts guided fishing trips in Colorado, Wyoming, Alaska and New York, and teaches fly-casting and fly tying throughout the year.

WEBSITE: www.joebutlerfishing.com
EMAIL: bigtroutjoe@yahoo.com

## KERRY CARAGHAR — TABLE 20

Kerry was born in Colorado where his family has lived since the mid 1800's. His love affair with fly-fishing began at an early age when he learned to fish on the beaver ponds of Buffalo Creek. It came as no surprise to Kerry's parents when he announced his dream of one day becoming a professional fly fisherman. Kerry has significant experience fly fishing across the Rocky Mountain west and he enjoys salt water fishing with a fly rod. Ireland, the home of his ancestors, remains Kerry's favorite destination for fly fishing. He currently teaches and guides at the Blue Quill Angler in Evergreen.

# OUR TYERS

## NANCY CLOOS NETTELL — TABLE 24

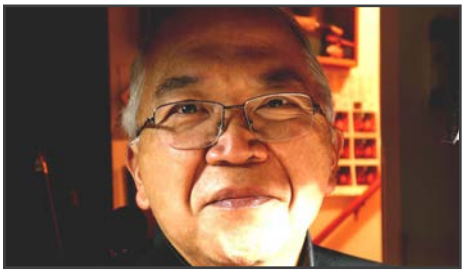
Nancy's childhood fascination with insects led her to where she is today. A natural artist, nothing intrigued her more than the incredible variety of insects of our natural world. Fly tying has given Nancy a chance to capture those insects in a variety of materials, fiber, fabric, beads, tinsel, fur and feathers. Nancy has tied flies at Orvis, Bass Pro Shops, and the ISE. She volunteers with Project Healing Waters and the Annual Kids' Fishing Frenzy at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal.

## CHARLIE CRAVEN — TABLE 31

Charlie owns Charlie's Fly Box in Olde Town Arvada. He's a long time Umpqua Feather Merchants Signature Tyer and the author of three fly tying books; *Charlie Craven's Basic Fly Tying*, *Charlie's Fly Box* and his latest, *Tying Nymphs*. His numerous signature patterns include such favorites as the Jujubee Midge, Jujubaetis, Two Bit Hooker, and Double Gonga.

WEBSITE: www.charliesflyboxinc.com
FACEBOOK: https://www.facebook.com/charliesflybox/

# OUR TYERS



## HERMAN deGALA — TABLE 35

Herman is a Signature Fly Designer for Umpqua Feather Merchants. He developed the highly successful website, *flytyingclips.com*. His video tutorials appear on one of the most popular YouTube fly tying channels, *InTheRiffle*. He is a contributor to the online blog Gink and Gasoline and his flies have appeared in *Fly Fisherman, Fly Fishing and Tying Journal, Swing the Fly* and *Fly Fusion*. He has made multiple appearances at the local fly shops and TU Chapters.

WEBSITE: http://www.flytyingclips.com
FACEBOOK: https://www.facebook.com/flytyingclips/
YOUTUBE: https://www.youtube.com/user/InTheRiffle/search?query=herman+deGala

## PAT DORSEY — TABLE 21

Pat, a Colorado native, has been guiding and fly tying for over 25 years. He spends approximately two hundred days a year on the water. Pat has authored several books, including the definitive work, *A Fly Fishing Guide to the South Platte River*. He is an accomplished fly tyer, and has invented many famous patterns, including the Mercury midge and the Black Beauty. Pat co-owns the Blue Quill Angler.

WEBSITE: http://www.patdorseyflyfishing.com/
FACEBOOK: Pat Dorsey
INSTAGRAM: @patdorseyflyfishing

# OUR TYERS

## GREG GARCIA — TABLE 37

At age ten, Greg vacationed in Colorado, fell in love with the mountains, and knew it would be his future home. He is a self-confessed trout nerd, interested in everything associated with fly fishing. Recently Greg has become obsessed with steelhead, and fishing with a two handed rod. Also, on occasion you will find him casting to tailing bonefish. Greg is an Umpqua Signature Tyer, a Scientific Anglers pro staffer, and the Manager of Angler's All.

## BOB GETZ — TABLE 8

Bob has lived in Colorado since 1986 when Martin Marietta moved his family here. He grew up in California fishing the Sacramento River Delta with his dad. After college, Bob's father-in-law got him started tying flies. Consequently, Bob has a rather comprehensive library and a room dedicated to all things fly fishing. Bob is currently an associate at Orvis Park Meadows.

# OUR TYERS

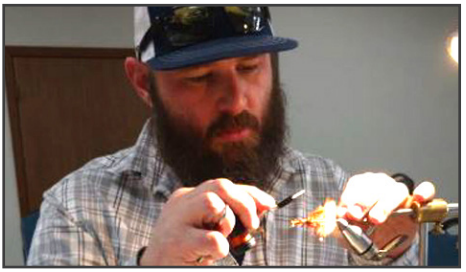
## ELI GONZALES

TABLE 49

Eli has been tying flies for over 30 years. He has limited time for fishing, so fly tying really takes on a relaxing and meditation roll for him. He enjoys tying small midges and baetis patterns. He is a member of the Semperfli pro team of tyers. Eli volunteers for Wounded Warriors and Project Healing Waters, and also ties at his local fly shop in Albuquerque, Los Pinos Fly Shop.

## JASON HADDIX

TABLE 6



Jason, from Wellington, Colorado, took up fly tying at a young age. He has become an accomplished demonstration tyer, commercial tyer, fly designer, speaker, writer and guide. His industry partnerships include Rite Bobbins, Daiichi Hooks, Peak vises, Firehole Hooks, and Semperfli. Jason ties at The Fly Fishing Show, West Denver TU, Fly Fishing Rendezvous, ISE, Wasatch Expo and many others. Stop by at any event or drop him a line.

EMAIL: watersedeflyco@gmail.com

# OUR TYERS

## PAT HIGGINS — TABLE 7

Pat has been a fly fishing guide and instructor for 20 years. His currently provides one on one private lessons to help the novice fly angler get the right start in the sport. With his business, Bear Creek Flyfishing Company, he is Head Production Wrapper for SaraBella Fishing, LLC. Pat is also Project Healing Waters/Denver Chapter's Rod Building Program Lead/Instructor. He has been fly fishing and tying for over fifty years and loves to share his experiences with other fly anglers.

WEBSITE: www.bearcreekflyfishingcompany.com

## ROGER HILL — TABLE 5

Roger grew up in the wilds of Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he learned to fish the creeks of the nearby Ozarks for smallmouth bass. After moving to Colorado, as an outdoors person who loved doing things the hard way, he took up fly fishing. Roger says that any fly fisher with an ego as big as his will think he can teach others to fly fish better than anyone else, and thus will write a book about it and get invited to run around the state posing as an expert. Roger cordially invites you to come to his table and see firsthand the results of an ego run riot.

# OUR TYERS

## PHIL IWANE — TABLE 12

Phil says he is artistic by nature, and views each fly he ties as a piece of art. He has tied hundreds of patterns but now has narrowed it down to flies that catch fish. Umpqua has selected his Iwan-e-Dun extended body mayfly series and No Mercy Midge, and he will be demonstrating how to tie them. He will be also sharing other very successful patterns. Phil has tied at The Fly Fishing Show, ISE, Orvis Events, Fly Fishing Rendezvous, St. Vrain Anglers TU Fly Tying Expo as well as at many of the fly shops in Colorado.

## TIM JACOBS — TABLE 28

Tim is a native of Michigan. He resides in the Roaring Fork Valley, and is an instructor at the Michigan Youth Trout Camp and for Project Healing Waters in Colorado. Tim has published numerous articles and authored the book *Tying and Fishing Deer Hair Flies* (2018, Stackpole Books). Tim is also a demonstration fly tyer for the Whiting Farms Pro Team and Regal Vise and Nature's Spirit Pro Staffs.

WEBSITE: www.timjacobsflyfishing.com

# OUR TYERS

## STEPHEN JOHNSON — TABLE 33

Stephen has been tying for more than thirty years. Some of his favorites are North Country flies (sometimes called spiders or soft hackles) and Puglisi-style saltwater flies. Soft hackles consist of minimal materials and look easy to tie. However, the challenge for the tyer is using the right material in the correct amount in the appropriate place. The Puglisi-style flies are fairly intricate and time consuming, but the finished product is worth the effort.

## JOHN KEEFOVER — TABLE 19

John has been a fly fishing guide for The Blue Quill Angler since 2005. He spends over 200 days a year guiding and fishing on Colorado rivers. John is a Colorado native, and has been fishing along the South Platte, and tying flies for selective trout, since the age of 14. He likes to joke that he was educated at Decker's College, got his Masters at the Dream Stream Institute, and his Ph.D. at the University of Cheeseman Canyon.

INSTAGRAM: @johnkeefoverflyfishing

# OUR TYERS

## BILL KIRK — TABLE 13

Bill started out fly fishing in rural Missouri in farm pond and lakes for bluegill and bass. After moving to Colorado his interest turned to trout fishing and in 1994 he discovered the wonderful world of fly tying. When he is not fishing he can be found teaching classes (Fly Tying and Introduction to Fly Fishing), guiding and doing tying demos for The Peak Fly Shop in Colorado Springs, Co.

## CHRIS KREUGER — TABLE 17

Chris owns and operates Rocky Mountain Fly Design, and is a signature designer with Montana Fly Company. He began tying commercially at age 14. Now a teacher by day and fly tier by night, Chris spends much of the year working with youth, teaching fly tying, demonstrating at shops and fly shows, tying commercially, and spending time on the water. Chris loves throwing articulated streamers for large predatory trout. He is a pro team member with Regal Engineering, Whiting Farms, and a signature designer with Montana Fly Company.

WEBSITE: www.rockymountainflydesign.com

# OUR TYERS

## KEVIN LE — TABLE 43

Kevin, a Chicago Native, began his fly-fishing career in the Great Lakes and its tributaries. Later he grew his love of the sport by exploring the Driftless region of Wisconsin and Iowa. Kevin is now the fly tying manager and guide at Arbor Anglers in Golden, Colorado. When he is not busy chasing trout he enjoys long sandy walks, umbrella drinks, and bumpy panga rides.

WEBSITE: www.arboranglers.com

## STEVE MALDONADO — TABLE 34

Steve is a native Coloradoan who grew up with an extreme outdoorsman father and learned to hunt and fish at a young age. A best friend in North Carolina introduced Steve to bass fishing and he fell in love with it. Steve has competed on the Budlight and Bass Champs Team and fished in Alaska, Argentina, Belize, Canada, Mexico, and all over the U.S. Saltwater fishing is one of his favorite things, second only to big bass fishing with giant streamers.

# OUR TYERS

## DAVID LEE McELWAIN — TABLE 22

David grew up fishing farm ponds in Missouri. He has guided for Bass Pro, and is a Master Dresser in the International Fly Dressers Guild. He has published two books. He currently is a part of Sara Bella Fishing's rod building team, and ties flies by request. He is happy to fish whenever he wants!

## MARC McMILLAN — TABLE 18

Mark has been fly fishing and tying since the late 1970's. A self-taught tier, he has become known for his inventive use and incorporation of common and not-so-common materials into flies of his own design. He has been a demonstration tier and instructor at various fly shops, fund raisers, and fly fishing and tying shows in Colorado since 2002. His patterns are effective for trout, bass, wiper, and carp, and his strong interest in carp fishing has led him to build a shallow water carp fishing boat, complete with a poling platform, for pursuing his beloved "golden bones".

# OUR TYERS

## GRAHAM MORAN — TABLE 25

Graham has been a professional fly fishing guide for the last seven years. His addiction to fishing started when he was two, and fly fishing entered his life when he was sixteen. Graham has a passion for teaching, and hopes others can find the same enjoyment in fly fishing that he has. Graham is well-known for his practice of tenkara. Tenkara is an ancient Japanese style of fly fishing using a collapsible rod with no reel and a fixed length of line. His nickname, Tenkara Grasshopper, or Grasshopper, comes from his position as Head Blogger and President of the Tenkara Grasshopper website.

WEBSITE: https://gearcoloradoflyfishing.com/

## WALT MUELLER — TABLE 15

Walt, aka "The Otter" (always in the water and usually catching fish), has been an avid fly tier and fisherman for over 60 years. He has the distinction of developing and marketing the original "Soft Milking Egg"® fly patterns to the industry over 15 years ago. While he initially developed the patterns for Great Lakes steelhead, they have also proven to be exceptional flies for all the cold water fish species, from Alaska, Canada, the Pacific North west, to the Mountain west.

# OUR TYERS

## VINNY PACHELLI — TABLE 40

Vinny started tying flies at the young age of 12. After over 2 decades of instruction and guiding, he still enjoys sitting behind the vice conjuring up new ways of getting strikes on the end of the line. As a father, husband, and outdoor enthusiast, Vinny relishes seeing his family grow into great stewards for ethical fishing, hunting, and conservation. Vinny always looks forward to the West Denver Fly Tying Clinic, and he can't wait to see you all.

WEBSITE: www.goldenriversports.net
WEBSITE 2: www.thegoldengames.com
EMAIL: vincent.pachelli@gmail.com

## DAN PASS — TABLE 59

Dan grew up in Golden and started fly fishing in 1992. He has fished extensively in Colorado and Wyoming. Dan runs the Fishing Buddies program for the West Denver TU Chapter. He takes people fishing who are new or newer to the sport and helps them learn the basics of fly fishing, catch and release, and conservation.

WEBSITE: www.tworiversinnwy.com
EMAIL: danpassrealestate@gmail.com

# OUR TYERS

## KASSEN PASS — TABLE 61

Kassen grew up in Golden. She learned to fish at a nearby lake with her dad. Her first fish ever was a bluegill! Kassen's dad brought her into fly tying when she was young. She liked to play with the feathers so Dad decided to teach her how to tie flies. She started out with San Juan worms and eggs and she just kept learning. Kassen loves to teach other kids fly tying and hopes they will stop by her table and say "Hi!" Kassen's message to other kids — "Just remember to follow your passion and you could end up like me — smart, happy, and awesome!"

## CARL PENNINGTON — TABLE 2

With a Thompson Model A vise and a small amount of materials, Carl began his journey into fly tying in his mid-twenties. He believed he would save himself some money learning to tie flies. As it turns out, that wasn't the case. Thirty years later, Carl is a fly designer for the Montana Fly Co., with about eight patterns in their catalog. He is a pro staff member of Regal Vises, Finest Fly Tying Benches of Colorado and Deer Creek Flies.

# OUR TYERS

## ERIC PETTINE — TABLE 39

Eric Pettine has been fly fishing for 70 years this coming May 1st. He did his first guide trip in 1962 and was a part-time guide until two years ago. He began tying flies in 1960 while at the University of Colorado. Hank Roberts at the Western Angler was his mentor. Eric currently designs flies for Umpqua Feather Merchants. He has written two books on fly fishing and articles in many of the fly fishing magazines. He was featured in six videos on fly fishing for Chevy Trucks advertising. Eric works with the International Sportmen's Expo doing fly tying demos and fly fishing programs.

## RICHARD PILATZKE — TABLE 41

Richard specializes in tying flies for and fishing stillwaters in Colorado. He does many fly tying demonstrations at events like The Fly Fishing Show, the International Sportsmens Expo, and the FFI Fly Fishing Fair. He also appears at several Denver area fly shops and at TU and FFI chapters. He is currently a member of the Regal Engineering, Wasatch Angling, Unibobber, and River Road Creations pro staffs. Richard and his fly patterns have appeared in books by Gary LaFontaine, Pat Dorsey, Marty Bartholomew, and Jim Schollmeyer and also in *Southwest Fly Fishing* and *Fly Fusion* magazines.

# OUR TYERS

## JUAN RAMIREZ — TABLE 1

Juan has been hooked on fishing since he first held a rod in the 4th grade. He earned his nickname, Hopper, after creating the Hopper Juan in 2007. His favorite rivers are the Arkansas and the South Platte. Juan teaches fly tying and guides for Anglers Covey in Colorado Springs. He is a member of the design team with Montana Fly Company, on the Pro staff of Regal Vises and on the Pro Staff of Deer Creek Flies based in the UK.

FACEBOOK: https://www.facebook.com/hopperjuan/
INSTAGRAM: @hopperjuan_fly_fishing

## JANE RETHERFORD — TABLE 44

Jane is a member of St. Vrain Anglers. Her favorite creations are foam terrestrials and flies using resin. She brings years of experience working with acrylic nails into tying her flies using ultraviolet light cured resins. Jane ties at many demos, including the Fly Fishing Show, the ISE, and Orvis. Jane is also a mentor for The Mayfly Project in Denver, "Mentoring Foster Children Through Fly Fishing." (TheMayflyProject.com)

# OUR TYERS

## STEVE ROGERS — TABLE 50

Steve currently works as a logical science technician at the National Wildlife Research Center in Fort Collins. He started fly tying and fishing when he was 13. A "streamer junkie," Steve can often be found carrying two rods just in case the streamer bite is on. He loves to spread his knowledge and passion at his tying demos in northern Colorado, in the fly shops, or on the river.

## STEVE SCHWEITZER — TABLE 14

Steve was born and raised in Ohio. At age 7, his grandfather taught him the craft of lure-making and he's been hooked ever since. Steve enjoys backpacking, hiking and writing about fly fishing and fly tying. He is the author of *A Fly Fishing Guide To Rocky Mountain National Park*, and co-authored, *A Fly Fishing Guide to Colorado's Indian Peaks Wilderness Area* with Mike Kruise. His latest book, *Designing Poppers, Sliders and Divers* is the most comprehensive manual ever written on top water fly lure making. Steve resides in Northern Colorado.

WEBSITE: www.pixachrome.com

# OUR TYERS

## DICK SHINTON — TABLE 27

Dick guides for the Laughing Grizzly Fly Shop in Longmont. His "office" is Rocky Mountain National Park, where he introduces clients to the joys of fishing for wild trout in small streams and high lakes. He specializes in simple patterns that catch fish, and his flies have been featured in books by Steve Schweitzer, Rick Takahashi and Pat Dorsey. He founded a *Kids Learn to Fly Fish* program at the St. Vrain Anglers Chapter of Trout Unlimited, and has been on the staff of the CTU Youth River Conservation and Fly Fishing Camp since 2007.

EMAIL: rashinton@gmail.com
LOCATION: Laughing Grizzly Fly Shop (303.772.9110)

## MARTY STAAB — TABLE 16

Marty discovered fly tying 50 years ago, learning from books with black-and-white illustrations. He tied for about five years before he saw anybody else doing it. His feathers came from Mom's Sunday hat. Marty has acquired a lot of stuff since then, and he particularly enjoys sharing the little tricks and techniques he has learned over the years.

YOUTUBE: Marty's Tying Bench

# OUR TYERS

## SCOTT STISSER — TABLE 47

Scott was born in California, and grew up in Pleasanton. He spent many years under tutelage of Andre Puyans, eventually teaching fly tying lessons at Andre's shop. In the early 80's he fell in love with Atlantic salmon fly tying. His patterns have been published in serveral books, including *Modern Midges, Modern Terrestials* and *Classic Salmon Fly Patterns*.

## DAVE STUDENT — TABLE 32

Dave has been a "fly junkie" his entire life. He loves tying, fishing and just appreciating flies. The art has allowed him to make friends — and a living — for more than 40 years. His current position is Fly Specialist for Umpqua. Dave has tied for A.K. Best, Anglers All and Front Range Anglers, and nationally for Florida Keys Outfitters, Yellowstone Anglers and Henry's Fork Anglers. He considers saltwater flats flies to be his passion and specialty.

# OUR TYERS

## KIEFER STUMPP

TABLE 29

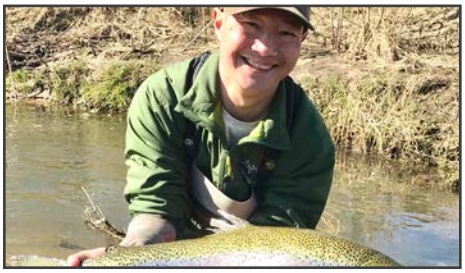
Kiefer recently graduated from Standley Lake High School in Westminster. He's been fly fishing since he was 9, tying since he was 10, and couldn't really ask for a better place to learn! Over the years, Kiefer has evolved from a kid who likes to fish to someone that has competed with the US Youth fly fishing team and a Team USA regional or two. If it swims in Colorado, chances are he's either caught it or it's on the short list of things to land.

## RICK TAKAHASHI

TABLE 11

Rick is an author, artist, demonstration fly tier, illustrator, and presenter of fly-fishing programs based on his books *Modern Midges* and *Modern Terrestrials*. He's newest book is titled *The Fly Tying Artist, Creative Patterns for Common Hatches*. Many of his flies, illustrations and articles were featured in *Fly Fisherman Magazine*. He is an Umpqua Feather Merchants Signature Fly Designer. Rick enjoys bringing fly fishing and fly tying to others, he ties flies every day for the pure joy of creating, "I'm one of those guys who enjoys tying flies as much as fishing them".

# OUR TYERS



## SON TAO — TABLE 30

Son is an active duty Soldier stationer in Colorado (First Sergeant). He has only been tying and fly fishing for four years but his passion for the sport is evident in each of his flies. Son was the winner of the 2017 Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing National Fly Tying Competition and is a member of Whiting Farms, Semperfli, and Solarez Pro Teams. He is also an ambassador for Simms Fishing and Wapsi. You can check out Son Tao's gallery of work on Instagram.

INSTAGRAM: @son_tao

## CHARLES VESTAL — TABLE 46

Charlie has been tying trout flies for nearly 7 decades. He specializes in tying small trout flies and in revisiting historic patterns. Principally a dry fly fisherman, he also fishes classic wet flies and soft hackles. Charles is also active in a small group of individuals who dress reproductions of Classic Atlantic Salmon Flies. He has an extensive collection of books (mid 1800 – present), materials and hooks. He dyes his own materials using the methods presented in 1855 and makes his own hooks. Charles looks for size, behavior, silhouette and color. He rarely, if ever, uses flash materials, foam rubber, beads, rubber legs, etc., preferring to use natural materials.

# OUR TYERS

## FRANK WHISPELL — TABLE 42

Frank Whispell grew up in California. He moved to Colorado in the 1980's and has been fly fishing ever since! Frank is currently a signature fly designer for Umpqua Feather Merchants He does annual demonstration fly tying at the Fly Fishing Show and the ISE, as well as other demos at various area fly shops. He also hosts fly fishing trips in Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, New Mexico, Oregon, Washington and Alaska.

## MICHELE WHITE — TABLE 10

Michele owns Tumbling Trout fly shop in Lake George, Colorado and is a certified guide. She has been fly fishing and rowing a river dory for over 20 years. She is V.P. of Education for the Pikes Peak Chapter of TU. She has authored multiple books, including, *Joe Schmo Can Catch a Big Fish* (2020), and *Lesser Know Fly Fishing Venues in South Park, Colorado* (2019). Michele's original pattern, "Can-Can Girl" is only available in her shop. It emulates a distressed terrestrial.

# OUR TYERS

## TOM ZEIGLER

**TABLE 9**

Tom specializes in deer hair flies for both trout and bass, demonstrating fly tying at several national and regional shows as well as local fly shops along Colorado's Front Range. In addition to tying demonstrations, he has published fly fishing photography in *The Fly Fish Journal, The Best Bass Flies, Southwest Fly Fishing* and *MidCurrent*. Tom is a FFF Certified Casting Instructor.

**NOTES:**

# MANY THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

## THEY MAKE THIS ALL POSSIBLE

Ed Calmus, Chair
Regina Musyl, Co-Chair
Tim Toohey, Past President
Dan Sullivan, Social Media
Cy Ball, Webmaster
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# ABOUT WEST DENVER TROUT UNLIMITED

## OUR MISSION

Conserving, protecting, and enhancing Colorado's coldwater fisheries through volunteerism, education, and outreach.

WDTU was founded in 1974, and now has over 1,100 members across metro Denver metro area. We meet the first Wednesday of each month, 7 PM, at the American Mountaineering Center in Golden. Topics range from "Organizing Your Fly Box," to "Landing Big Fish on a Tenkara Rod." These meetings are free and open to the public.

WDTU's success relies directly on its members, who generously volunteer their time and effort to achieve the chapter's mission.

## BECOME A MEMBER

First time members are eligible for half price memberships. To learn more, and to join or renew, go to **www.westdenvertu.org** and click on "**GET INVOLVED**" then "**JOIN OR RENEW**." We are chapter #130.

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