



Colorado Youth Outdoors Newsletter

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3rd Quarter 2006

From The Directors Chairs

Executive Director

Bob Hewson

Fall has to be my favorite time of the year. I love the cooler weather and, of course, truly enjoy the start of another CYO season. This year we welcome aboard Roosevelt High and Windsor High. In addition to these schools

we had larger than expected numbers for Thompson Valley High and had to hire another instructor (Phil Thompson) to set up an additional unit for the new class. Welcome aboard y'all.

Things here at my desk have been good and steady paced. One highlight has been the final draft of the cooperative agreement with the DOW on the Swift property. We are that much closer, gang! We hope to have all of our paperwork in to the legislative body for their approval during session this next year. We will have more on this as each quarter goes by. Another highlight was my trip to Washington DC. I met with Senator Allard and his staff on some potential support topics. We looked into some opportunities and, if all goes well, we may have an appointment to make a presentation to the Congressional Sportsman's Caucus in February or March. While in DC, I headed north to the National Conservation Training Center for a forum on Children in Nature. Attending this forum was



the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the US Fish and Wildlife, Dale Hall. (You all remember Dale Hall who attended our fundraiser shoot). Mr. Hall and I had plenty of time to catch up and he is still passionate about our programs. We are very excited to work with

these folks and look forward to great things to come.

As if we don't get enough contact through email, we have had a huge amount of interest in CYO from a national audience after the airing of the CYO show on OLN's Hunting University. In fact, the emails have



come from several states from people looking at how they can launch the equivalent of a CYO in their state and community. Hmmmm...can anyone smell a national organization coming? For now our plate is full just trying to get this program truly standardized so we can quickly move through our beautiful state.

That's all for now. I will see you again next quarter with what I predict will be more terrific news. A "thank you" to all of our volunteers and sponsors. Your generosity is why we are here today. **Enjoy your family; enjoy your outdoors and god bless.**

Program Director

Tom Hewson

Five years and still going strong. Heck, that's better than the energizer bunny. We are proud to open our doors to the sixth freshman year class this year. To steal another line, "If you build it they will come." This could not be more true.

One would think that after five years our curriculums would be dialed in and set. While this is true for some of the programs it is the opposite for others. Five years gives us a great opportunity to review and reflect on where we've been and where we are heading. As curriculum Director, I couldn't think of a better time to make the necessary adjustments.

One adjustment is our growth. It's amazing to think that this little organization called Colorado Youth Outdoors is now reaching outside of the Loveland community. This year we welcome on board Roosevelt and Windsor High. We are anxious to watch the expansion of their programs and are eager to meet the expanded CYO family.

One thing that will never change is our Mission. We love what we do and how we can serve. Bringing youth and their parents together through outdoor curriculums has been and will always be our mission and purpose. What a great reason for getting up in the morning!



Spotlight on Carol Johnston

Ever wonder who it is you are talking to when you call the office? Chances are Carol Johnston, our Office Administrator, answers your call. Carol is the lifeblood of CYO, which is usually the case with office admins. In fact, many a time people ask for Bob or Tom only to go back to Carol...she is the one who knows more about the office and organization matters than any of us! Carol is one of the original CYO organizers starting back in 2001. She and her husband Tim have two boys who have since graduated. One son, Chad, is fighting in Iraq for the freedoms we so enjoy not only for us but also for those who have never experienced freedom. Our prayers always include Chad. Brent, their second son, is now in college and works for



the family during his off time.

Carol's lists of duties are too numerous to capture in this newsletter but we will point out a few of her true talents: office clerk, answering emails, phone, fax and walk-in questions. Carol is the secretary for both the Advisory Board as well as the Board of Trustee's. Carol is responsible for our accounting and reporting to the IRS, with the help of Paul Williams who donates his accounting services through Knezovich and Williams CPA's.

I think all of you would agree that when it came time to fill a slot for an office administrator we found the best and, no, we do not intend to let her go!

Thank you, Carol, for all you do in making sure we are building healthy relationships between youth and their parents.

Roosevelt High School Level One

By: Brian Wells, CYO Instructor

Colorado Youth Outdoors (CYO) held its first official function at Roosevelt High School (RHS) on the evening of September 6th with the Parent meeting. In attendance were 15 students and their parents. A representative of one of CYO Roosevelt's major backers, Gary Caldwell of the Rocky Mountain Bighorn Society, was introduced to all. His presence was greatly appreciated. This initial meeting laid the groundwork for CYO expectations and thoroughly explained Level I participation, the mission statement of the organization and flavor that is uniquely CYO.

The Fly Fishing Introduction segment of the curriculum followed the RHS opener. Harry Buckler did a wonderful job of demonstrating the basics of fly fishing, and shared some great first hand accounts of his most recent aquatic adventures. As mosquitoes became a nuisance and

the sun began to set, the exercise was followed by a session of Knot Tying in the classroom. Some of us discovered that we have more than just two thumbs. At the end of the evening there was excited conversation, anticipation for what is going to happen next, planning of field activities to try out newly discovered skills, and plans to further explore rekindled interests.

The enthusiasm of the participants was high and the excitement was getting contagious. Fishing equipment has been checked out, this last week, as the student/parent teams are gearing up for the Mentor Fishing Days that are scheduled this month to take place at both Sylvan Dale Ranch and Swift Ponds. Several others will be meeting at Berthoud High School to complete their Hunters Education Course. It is wonderful to have Colorado Youth Outdoors at Roosevelt High School.

Alumni Members

Dean & Jacquelyn Braunschweig
Shelly Kuntz
Sheri Brown & Stephen Mauer
Thomas Blomquist & Patricia Baum
Don & Debbie Cumpsten
Jim & Carol Moser
Buzz & Sandy Sawyer
Jon Cumpsten
John & Rhonda McCaughey
Rich & Sherry Bowyer
Rick Frank
Matthew & Patricia Clark
Mike & Joni Zandt
David & Katherine Murtha
Don Reid
Jerry L. & Sheri L. Adamson
Paul Nelson
Rob Myers
Dick & Marion Hewson
Bob & Peggy Reichert
Steve & Cathy Butti
Terry & Lois Heckman
Traver Heckman
Tim & Carol Johnston
Brent Johnston
Don Barr
Larry & Deb Biernat
James & Carol Brouillard
Jared Cumpsten
Scott & Connie Davis
Joe & Alisa DesJardin
Ralph & Joann Fairchild
Eric & Stacey Folsom
Darrell & Lisa Fox
Mel Green & Cindy Wood
Brian & Suzy Hall
Lee & Shirley Heckman
Bob & Maureen Hewson
Mark Hogenson
Alva & Patricia Jarrett
Byron & Norma Johnston
John Nelson
Kurt & Nancy Penley
Mike Rago & Mary Jo Traylor
Mike & Laurie Shearer
Gary & Carol Vander Wal

New Sponsors to Join Fundraiser Shoot

We barely released the info to identify new sponsors for this year's celebrity shoot and up popped two new sponsors. This year's tent and supply sponsor will be Flexx

Flexx

Productions out of Fort Collins. Kevin, owner of Flexx, attended a meeting with Bob Hewson last month. After reviewing our cause and seeing an opportunity to help, Kevin gave us an enthusiastic "Yes! We are in!" This is community at its finest, gang, and as Kevin put it, the best advertising and business model is investment in the community. The business will follow. Please help us

say "thank you" should your needs ever include Party Rentals of Tents or associated equipment.

CZ – USA is on board for youth shoot sponsorship and more! Alice Poluchova (President of CZ – USA) sent a message out that they are 'in' and 'in' big time. Not only will they be this year's youth day sponsor (Sunday) but will also be the flurry and team sponsor as well.

CZ-USA

To round out their support, Alice asked if we could use some guns for the auction or other events. What a great corporate sponsor! We look

forward to a solid relationship with this company. Again, one of the best ways to say "thank you" is to try out some of CZ's products. CYO plans to incorporate some of CZ's products into the curriculums so, watch out; the next time you are shooting trap or in the new .22 caliber curriculum you will probably see CZ products. This year's returning sponsors are Budweiser and Hunting University. We are blessed to have such terrific support from these organizations. We still have a slot open for a title sponsor so; if anyone is interested, send them our way. I have an idea who this might be but you will just have to wait until the Save the Date cards come out.

Putting CYO's Survival Kits to the Test

By: Eric Folsom



Eric and Travis

I thought you would be interested to know that, during a recent backpacking trip into the Mount Zirkel wilderness area, Travis and I put the "survival kits" to the test. I'm happy to report that they passed. Several miles into the backcountry, at an elevation of approx 10,000 feet, bad weather moved in. We were using a new tent that, I'm not so happy to report, did not pass the test. With HEAVY rain and wind it started leakin' every which way you can imagine. At the first break in the rain, we removed the rain fly. Using the plastic sheet included in our kits we placed the sheet between the fly and the tent, which provided dry shelter. Along with the plastic, the line was used to add additional tie

downs for the tent. After the weather moved on we dried things out and broke out the fly rods we recently built and proceeded to catch nearly 40 trout! We threw back all but the largest ones, when it came time to light the fire. It was made easy using the cotton balls rolled in petroleum jelly. After a fine meal, we sat back and tried to count all the stars. Since we were not able to get them all counted, we will be going back next year to try again.

Participants Input

by Darryl Beemer a 9th grader at MVHS

I am new to CYO because I am a first year, but so far I am very glad that I joined CYO. From what I have seen, it looks like a great program with all of the outdoor activities covered over one year. I really enjoy getting out to do the activities and being able to learn new things that I never figured I would get to do. No one cares about your experience level. You can be an expert or a beginner, but you still do everything together. There are many opportunities to do things that you otherwise wouldn't get to do. The part I like the most, though, is that it is free. You don't have to pay for a thing. I look forward to learning

how to shoot a bow and arrow. I got into CYO after hearing about it from some friends of mine that had gone through it and they had talked to me about many of the things that CYO teaches. It was a ton of fun for them so I decided to try CYO and found it was as fun as they said it would be. I am very glad I joined CYO and look forward to doing more.

Berthoud High School

The Berthoud CYO is up and running, and kids and parents are learning new things each week. We are meeting in the Earth Science room, which has a lockable storage area to keep our supplies safe. This week we practiced fly rods again, and the sound of whips cracking was much less than the first day. (Future high country fishermen, for sure.)

The education provided by our experts has been terrific, and the quality of the supplies has exceeded everyone's expectations. We are learning so much that we can't wait to go fishing at Swift Ponds.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to make this a quality beginning to our new year.

Mike Shearer

Thompson Valley High School

Here are some tidbits:

Thompson Valley opened its 06/07 school year with a huge growth spurt. We have added another class unit to absorb the increased number of parents and kids. We had 36 pairs of kids and parents at Fly Casting night and had more kids requesting admission the next day.

The word is out and we are having a great time. Thanks to Ted Meredith, Tom Peoples, Bob Kreutz and Brad Wright. You guys are great volunteer instructors. I might add that Tom drove all the way from Arvada in Denver to help us.

Cheers,
Tom Hewson

Intern From UNC Assisting CYO



Brad Wright

It's always a pleasure when the phone rings and the person on the other end says, "Let me know if I can be of help." So, how do you think we felt when we received the call from Brad Wright saying, "I am a college student at UNC majoring in Recreation and would like to intern for your organization. Oh, by the

way, did I mention that I have some skills like grant writing and survey creation. In addition I am willing to work out of the CYO office on Tuesdays and Thursdays." CYO's comment... "Hmmm, let me think about that...yep, sounds good."

CYO 'ers please welcome Brad Wright to the family. Brad has been assisting us for the past 3 months and is currently, among other duties, reviewing grant opportunities, auditing our coordinators manuals and creating inventory counts of equipment. We are confident that you will see Brad around the classes as he has demonstrated a real passion in getting involved. We have already noticed that Brad really jumps up when our curriculums involve some fishing out at Swift Ponds.

Thank you, Brad, for your volunteer hours and welcome to the family.

Alumni Activities

by Carol Moser

Well, summer is definitely over! CYO Alumni are in high gear preparing for a full scope of activities, including:

Wednesday nights are filled with Level 1, 2, and 3 programs and ALUMNI ARE NEEDED for both Berthoud trap shooting and Tom's Level 1 group.

Moser's duck blind factory is busily adapting, repairing and assembling blinds for both Sylvan Dale and Swift Ponds hunting dates. Again, alumni help is warmly welcomed.

The Wednesday night barbecue is in need of help as well. So far, we have grilled hamburgers each week. We may want to change that to something that can be served inside as the weather continues to cool. Any

Alum (or wife, daughter, neighbor or casual friend) who would be willing to help with this please call Jim @ 669-7055

An Alumni activity calendar is in the works. We are planning a variety of outings for the fall. Hopefully, we'll have an exciting program.

Waterfowl Program

by Carol Moser



One of the Duck blinds built by Jim Moser

The duck-hunting season opens early this year!!

The CYO Waterfowl Program has expanded...we are going to be able to hunt FOUR, yes, FOUR times a week! Tuesdays and Saturdays we will hunt at Swift Ponds. Wednesdays and Sundays we will hunt at Sylvan Dale. This is HUGE!!! Anyone who wants to take part in duck or goose hunting, please contact Jim Moser 669-7055 or jmcmmoser@msn.com (new e-mail address). We are adding new blinds and adapting the lids in an effort to make the hunting experience even safer.

We will be working in conjunction with Outdoor Buddies at the Swift Ponds facility. We are excited about this new association. For more info, talk with Jim Moser.

At the recent clean up day at Swift Ponds we held a brief waterfowl orientation. A more elaborate program was planned but the weather turned so cold and windy that we abbreviated the program.

COLORADO YOUTH OUTDOORS WOULD LIKE TO SAY THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE BOARD MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS AS THEY CONTINUE TO WORK BEHIND THE SCENES IN EFFORTS TO GROW OUR WONDERFUL ORGANIZATIONS. THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE SPENT COUNTLESS HOURS SUPPORTING THE MISSION OF BUILDING HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN YOUTH AND THEIR PARENTS THROUGH OUTDOOR CURRICULUMS.

THE WEB SITE IS WWW.COLORADOYO.ORG. OUR PHONE NUMBER IS 970 663 0800. WE ARE LOCATED AT 209 E 4TH LOVELAND 80537.