



A CITY GIRL'S LIFE IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS

by Joanna Stensland

"Oh no! Cows!" I froze on the spot. Then, as if on cue, the cows all turned to stare ominously at me and my husband Erik as we walked along the Black Canyon Trail through McGregor Ranch. "I can't do it!" I categorically told my long-suffering companion of many years. "There's no way I'm walking by those cows!" I can't remember if Erik sighed or laughed — or both — but he encouraged and cajoled me, eventually persuading me to follow him along the trail, shaking his head at my shrieks every time a cow approached.

In case you hadn't figured it out, Isabella Bird I am not. I don't venture out on horseback into uncharted wilderness in snowstorms. I don't spend winter (or any time at all) in a frigid cabin with no heat and barely any food. I don't go

where no British woman has gone before. And this city girl certainly doesn't go near cows or other large mammals. The only thing Isabella and I have in common is our homeland. Well, almost the only thing: We have both been practically carried up Longs Peak, and we both share a love of nature and wilderness. Yep, you heard that correctly. This city girl who's afraid of cows really does love the wilderness. (If you haven't heard of the exceptional Isabella Bird, I highly recommend you read A Lady's Life in the Rocky Mountains).

It has been a long process, that of learning to appreciate nature. I grew up in a row house in a city in the south of England. There was a factory at the end of our street, and trains passed nearby several times a day. As kids, we played hopscotch for entertainment or rode our bikes up and down the sidewalks. The only bit of nature was the little rose garden my dad planted outside our house. Our city, like

many English cities, was surrounded by a greenbelt preventing expansion beyond the city limits, which meant we were never far from England's green fields and woods. Yet as a young teen I didn't appreciate my proximity to them. I just remember forced marches through the muddy countryside (my parents called them *fun outings*) and the boredom of being without my friends and record player. I didn't know what I know now, that nature had been offering me a great gift, and that little by little it would have given back to me what I would lose of myself each day in the struggles of daily life. And that it would have nurtured me and fed me. But I was too distracted and too stubborn to receive it.

Fast-forward a couple of decades. I had now spent several years living and working in different European capitals where I had enjoyed all the buzz and amenities the city had to offer. In 1994, soon after the totali-

(City Girl continued on page 12)

## Executive Director

Estee Rivera Murdock

## Board of Directors

**Jim Pickering (President)**

Estes Park, CO

**Brian Ross (Vice President)**

Denver, CO

**Timothy Davis (Treasurer)**

Denver, CO

**Zachary Wiebe (Secretary)**

Fort Collins, CO

**Doug Campbell**

Greeley, CO

**Don Cheley**

Denver, CO

**Charles Cofas**

Estes Park, CO

**Katherine Dines**

Denver, CO

**Howard Fry**

Castle Rock, CO

**Lynne Geweke**

Estes Park, CO

**Elizabeth Grant**

Denver, CO

**Julie Harrington**

Denver, CO

**Charles Jerden**

Denver, CO

**Joel Mayo**

Centennial, CO

**Jan Robertson**

Boulder, CO

**Bill Tindall**

Carmel, IN



Dear Friends,

**Happy New Year!** Here at the Conservancy and in Rocky Mountain National Park, the new year has started with some turbulence and uncertainty, posing some unique challenges for us as federal lands partners during the government shutdown that closed the national parks. The shutdown began in the last ten days of 2018, right at the finish line of our year-end fundraising campaign for projects to support Rocky in the coming year. Thanks to your generosity during this annual appeal, the Conservancy entered the shutdown period in a place of financial stability and strength, enabling us to step up and help the park where needed, keeping the best interests of the park and the public in mind.

We are very pleased to be assisting the park by opening the Fall River Visitor Center to the public while the park is closed. As an independent 501(c)3 that receives no federal funding to support our operations, and with our well-trained clerk staff, the Conservancy is uniquely qualified to assist the park in this way at this visitor center that is funded by Conservancy supporters. Unfortunately, we do not have the same infrastructure and ability to operate our Nature Store at the closed Kawuneeche Visitor Center or at the closed Beaver Meadows Visitor Center, nor at our other partner sites, such as our neighboring national forests, Bureau of Land Management in Wyoming, or Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument.

Certainly, garbage and human waste in the national parks have been the most headlining issues during this federal shutdown, but there are countless other invisible effects in Rocky as well. Research projects, some with time-sensitive data collection, have come to a standstill, with data gaps that will be irreplaceable. Burn-piles of hazard fuels in the park stand untorched in the perfect burn conditions that have graced the first few weeks of the year. Some of the park's education interns have arrived for their season in Rocky, only to discover that their supervisors have been furloughed and the park's education programs have been halted. Field Institute programs have been cancelled due to unplowed and closed park roads. A youth corps project to build new park housing through a partnership between the Conservancy and the Larimer County Conservation Corps has come to a standstill with no NPS staff to supervise.

When the park reopens and the rangers and park volunteers return to their duties, the Conservancy will be ready to help, and to assist them with funding gaps from lost fee-revenue and other costs of the shutdown. Many of you have contacted us about ways to help the park during this time and it has been a real gift to connect with you and share the appreciation we have for Rocky.

May this new year bring hope and light to the world, and may your personal resolutions take you into the great outdoors more than ever this year. Enjoy these wonderful and wild places that your gifts and your membership help to steward every day.

Best,

Estee Rivera Murdock

Executive Director



Photo: Larry Van Sickle



## In Memoriam: Conservancy Volunteer Ruth Hess (1927–2018)

With great sadness, the Conservancy reports the passing of longtime volunteer (and so much more) Ruth Hess of Loveland, Colorado.

*Conservancy volunteer Ruth Hess. She was a gem. We will miss her something fierce.*

Ruth volunteered for the Rocky Mountain Conservancy Field Institute for more than 20 years. She spent about 416 hours each year to keep the field institute running, from answering phones to filing paperwork, sharing information with the public, and logging statistics and analytics. Additionally, Ruth was a staunch supporter of the Conservancy's mission to partner with Rocky Mountain National Park. A journalist by trade, Ruth graciously shared her supreme copyediting skills, and her tireless devotion to quality writing and publications.

Recently, Ruth's dedication was celebrated by the Estes Park Philanthropy Day organization in Estes Park, on November 15, 2018. National Philanthropy Day in Estes Park is an annual event to recognize the nonprofits, volunteers, foundations, funders, businesses, and community members who give of their time, talent and treasure to support the many worthy causes in the Estes Park community. Ruth received the Enduring Service Award at this event.

We at the Conservancy knew Ruth to be a gentle soul with an iron backbone. At almost 92 years of age, Ruth drove up the Big Thompson Canyon every week to volunteer for the Conservancy and to help out at a nearby lodge. She hiked or snowshoed every week in the park in every season, and she loved to explore new places and travel the world with her friends. She loved peanut brittle. And she loved Rocky Mountain National Park. She couldn't get enough of peoples' stories, their lives and their concerns. She gathered people to her and kept them close with her attentiveness and her ready smile. Her funny bone was easily tickled, and her memory was the stuff of legends.

### Cover photo

Winter-phase Ptarmigan, Conservancy Member Putney Nature Images, Longmont, CO

Photos are always appreciated! Scenery, wildlife and wildflowers greatly enhance this publication, so get out there and take a hike!

Please send high-resolution images to [nancy.wilson@RMConservancy.org](mailto:nancy.wilson@RMConservancy.org) by March 1 for publication in the 2019 Spring Quarterly.

Thank You!

## Ask Nancy

Quarterly Editor Nancy Wilson attempts to unearth answers to any questions asked by Conservancy members and park visitors. If you are curious about something in or about the park, email [nancy.wilson@rmconservancy.org](mailto:nancy.wilson@rmconservancy.org) or write: Nancy Wilson, Rocky Mountain Conservancy, PO Box 3100, Estes Park, CO 80517.

**How much influence does the park have when it comes to federal decisions that would have an impact on it?** The parks can have some influence over federal decisions, more likely when the decisions are specific to the National Park Service (as opposed to broader decisions affecting all agencies within the DOI, or all federal agencies). There is no exact formula or occasion that prescribes how or when this influence may occur. For example, last year when there was a proposal to dramatically increase the annual visitor pass fee at Rocky and 16 other National Parks from \$35 to \$70, many parks and their partners weighed in on that proposal, which ultimately resulted in a \$5 increase instead. There are other decisions that are made without input from the parks. Every situation is different. — *RMNP Superintendent Darla Sidles*

**Is it possible to hike all of the peaks of the Never Summer Range in a single shot? If so, is there an official name for this hike?** To our knowledge, there have been only a few of the park's seasonal staff who have hiked "all" of the Never Summer Mountains in one summer season, but not all in one trip. At the most, these folks could hike three peaks in a day, but there are no trails to any of the mountaintops, and they all require lots of scrambling in scree. Additionally, some areas in this range are extremely exposed, and most of them are accessed from the western slope of the mountain range, near Rand or Gould, CO, because the east faces in Rocky are so steep. — *RMNP Colorado River District Interpretive Ranger Maci MacPherson*

**Geologically, what made the west side of the park so different from the east?** The west side of the park is distinguished by the remains of ancient volcanoes in the Never Summer Mountains which erupted from 29 to 24 million years ago, sending flows, rock fragments, and ash down their slopes to form what are called "composite cones" or stratovolcanoes. Deposits from the side of one of these cones are exposed along the highway north of Milner Pass. The volcanoes themselves have been eroded away, exposing intrusive igneous rocks formed from cooling of magma chambers that fed the volcanoes. Red Mountain, visible from Farview Curve, is a good example of one of these magma chambers. The mountain is red because mineralizing fluids deposited pyrite (aka. fools gold, iron sulfide) in the rock. Pyrite oxidizes red when it is exposed to air by weathering and erosion. Superhot ash flows spread far beyond volcanic cones themselves. Large quantities of ash are erupted into the stratosphere, forming a cloud that collapses and flows down the slopes of a volcano and beyond at high speed. Upon reaching the bottom of the slope, ash pours down valleys that lead away from the volcano. One such ancient valley full of ash is exposed in the wall of the Lava Cliffs south of the Alpine Visitor Center. The Lava Cliffs are not really lava, but densely welded volcanic ash. After the ash flow stopped, the inside remained hot, partially melting glassy pumice and shards, forming a rock called "welded tuff." The top and bottom of an ash flow insulates the inside, so that the inside is the most densely welded part. Volcanic ash probably once blanketed much of the park but has since been removed by erosion. No volcanic ash remains on the east side. The middle and eastern parts of the park are underlain by granitic rocks and schists formed 1.4–1.7 billion years ago, long before the volcanic rocks on the west side. Granitic rocks formed from very large magma chambers in the earth's crust about 5–15 miles below the surface. You can recognize granitic rocks by their medium-to-coarse grain size, pale pink and white feldspar, gray quartz between feldspar grains, and have the tendency to break into chunks. The granitic magmas never rose to the surface to erupt as volcanoes, although they may have provided a deep source for magmas that did. The magmas intruded and engulfed clay-like and sandy rocks, heating and recrystallizing them to form schist. You can recognize schist as a dark mica-rich rock that cleaves into thin, plate-like fragments. — *U.S.G.S. Scientist Emeritus and Conservancy Field Institute Instructor Dr. David Lindsey*



Photo: Larry Van Sickle

## Rocky Mountain National Park Sound Library Becomes a Conservation Tool

by Jacob Job

Situated in a small, dimly lit basement room on the campus of Colorado State University is a pretty special place. There's nothing instantly compelling about the room, except that it's full of computers and students, yet it is nearly silent. Why is it so quiet? Well, it's not really, but you have to slip on a pair of headphones to understand what's really going on.

Inside the Listening Lab, thirteen undergraduate students work together to help national parks like Rocky Mountain National Park keep the sounds of wilderness as natural as possible by monitoring the presence and extent of noise pollution. They do this by listening to thousands of hours of audio recordings that have been captured in some of the most remote locations in parks across the country. From these recordings, the students build a database of the types of sounds that they hear, including natural sounds such as wind, rain and birds, as well as human-associated noises, such as vehicles, aircraft and trains.

Together, natural sounds and noise come together to produce what is known as a soundscape. The soundscape of a place can tell parks and scientists a lot about the health of that place, including which species are present, when they are present, and what types of noise pollution might be interfering with their daily lives. This information is exactly what the students in the Listening Lab have uncovered over the past five years, and it's providing parks with a valuable service that helps with the conservation of natural park soundscapes for the benefit of wildlife well-being and visitor enjoyment.

Dr. Jacob Job is the manager of the Listening Lab and a member of the Sound and Light Ecology team, which is a cooperative venture between the Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology and Biology departments of Colorado State University and the Natural Sounds and Night Skies

Division of the National Park Service. While Job oversees the work of the undergraduate students, he also has worked to extend the use of audio recordings as a conservation tool to help advocate for and preserve natural sounds and soundscapes.

In 2015, Job began work on the Rocky Mountain National Park soundscape

**In essence, Job is creating a collection of sounds that acoustically define Rocky Mountain National Park as a whole. ... It's slowly becoming clear that compelling audio recordings can be used as effective conservation tools.**

project. The project initially began as an attempt to gather high-quality recordings of the songs of all of the breeding songbirds of the park in anticipation of shifting summer ranges, and potential species disappearance due to climate change-induced habitat loss. According to National Audubon Society's 2015 Birds and Climate Change report, half of Rocky's songbirds are threatened by climate

change. To date, Job has recorded more than 60 of the park's 88 breeding song-

birds along 200 miles of trails. He has also learned that the areas that produce the most birds and greatest variety of birdsong are low elevation, riparian zones such as those found in Hollowell Park, Moraine Park, Upper Beaver Meadows and Endovalley.

In 2016, Job realized he was missing a greater opportunity to advocate for park soundscapes in the big picture by just focusing on individual components such as singing birds. Eventually, in addition to his continued birdsong work, he began recording entire park soundscapes and interesting acoustic events, such as dawn choruses, thunderstorms, and the yearly fall elk rut.

In essence, Job is creating a collection of sounds that acoustically define Rocky Mountain National Park as a whole. And more importantly, he is allowing people from across the country, regardless of whether they are able to actually visit the park, a chance to experience the wild that Rocky has to offer just by putting on a pair of headphones. Job hopes that these recordings will trigger positive memories and emotions associated with visits to Rocky or similar places, and that this connection will inspire heightened conservation advocacy by many different groups of people. All of the bird and soundscape recordings from the park can be found in a newly released audio library on the park's website at [www.nps.gov/romo/learn/photosmultimedia/soundlibrary.htm](http://www.nps.gov/romo/learn/photosmultimedia/soundlibrary.htm).

Since the beginning of his recording work in Rocky, other parks, such as Yellowstone, Sequoia, and Kings Canyon National Parks, as well as Lewis and Clark National Historical Park, have asked Job to conduct similar work. These parks have used these recordings to produce sound libraries similar to Rocky's, a short video highlighting natural sounds, and interactive story maps that allow visitors to explore the sounds of a park while reading about their importance and what they can tell us. It's slowly becoming clear that compelling audio recordings can be used as effective conservation tools.

To learn more about the Listening Lab, Dr. Job's recording work, and other research and outreach efforts of the Sound and Light Ecology Team, visit their website at [www.soundandlightecologyteam.colostate.edu](http://www.soundandlightecologyteam.colostate.edu). To hear recordings from the parks where Job has worked, as well as soundscapes from other wild places across the country and world, visit his personal recordings page at [www.soundcloud.com/gaviaimmer](http://www.soundcloud.com/gaviaimmer).

## Changes in RMNP Backcountry Camping Fees In Effect for 2019

Effective for the 2019 summer season, the cost of obtaining a permit for backcountry camping in Rocky Mountain National Park will increase from \$26 to \$30 per trip. This administrative permit fee, established in 1995, was last increased to \$26 in 2015.

Permits for backcountry camping are an integral part of a program that rations and distributes use throughout the park's backcountry. Permits are intended to help provide a quality experience, minimize impacts to resources, and ensure that sites are available for those who plan ahead and reserve a permit in advance. While an overnight permit is required for backcountry camping year-round, the fee for obtaining the permit only applies for camping that occurs during the months of May through October when demand typically exceeds availability in many areas of the park's backcountry. The four-dollar increase for the nonrefundable permit becomes effective March 1, 2019.

Different from an entrance fee or fee for camping in a developed campground, the backcountry permit is based on cost recovery, and all funds are applied directly to the costs of administering the program.

According to Superintendent Darla Sidles, "Rocky Mountain National Park retains one hundred percent of the administrative fees charged for backcountry camping permits. In addition to providing the opportunity to reserve and secure campsites in advance, funds recovered through the permit fee allow for staff to provide trip planning advice and information for a safe and enjoyable trip into the wilderness. Requirements for food storage necessary to protect bears and other wildlife, mountain weather, hazards, and Leave No Trace ethics are among the information received during the permitting process." For further information about Rocky Mountain National Park, visit [www.nps.gov/romo](http://www.nps.gov/romo) or call the park's Information Office at (970) 586-1206.



**2019 Rocky Mountain National Park Biennial Research Conference**

*Continual Change,  
Collaborative Stewardship*

**March 5-6**  
Estes Valley Community Center  
Estes Park, CO

Come learn about research happening at RMNP.

The conference is sponsored by Rocky Mountain Conservancy and is free and open to the public.

<http://go.nps.gov/RMNPREsearch2019>

## Conservancy Educational Adventures 2019: New Programs!



With summer just around the corner, the Rocky Mountain Conservancy-Field Institute is primed for another season of educational adventures in Rocky Mountain National Park!

### Wildlife of Rocky: An Educational Adventure by Bus

Dates: June 20, 27; July 11, 18, 25; August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Rocky Mountain National Park is a beautiful place teeming with wildlife, but it's easy to forget about the inhabitants that make this area so unique. Join our naturalist-guide on a 14-passenger minibus or 12-passenger van as we seek out the critters of RMNP. Spend an evening in the park's breathtaking locations — Horse-shoe Park, Alluvial Fan, Moraine Park, and more — learning about the wildlife that make this region so fascinating.

### Estes Valley: History & Historic Sites

Dates: May 18, 31

Instructor: Curt Buchholtz

Enjoy an overview of the region's past through a mix of brief lectures and discussions with visits to historical sites of significance. Sites will range from an ancient Indian battlefield to early homesteads, and from stately resorts to deserted cabins. Examine numerous historical sites in the Estes Valley to discover the outlines of settlement and change. More than just a historical tour, this experience will bring a greater depth of understanding for this area.



### 2019 Field Institute Catalog

Need a catalog to choose great classes in Rocky Mountain National Park? Send us an email at:

[info@fieldinstitute.org](mailto:info@fieldinstitute.org)

or call us at 970-586-3262.

Learn more at: [RMConservancy.org](http://RMConservancy.org)

Or, call 970-586-3262 for more information

### Beginning Digital Photography: Learning the Basics

Dates: May 30-31

Instructor: Eli Vega

In this highly interactive course, learn the basics (and beyond) of digital photography. Explore the dials and buttons on your camera, those mysterious menu items, f-stops, shutter speeds, exposure, and how they all work together. Learn about ISO and white balance, different types of lenses, and composition. Find the #1 solution to the #1 problem in photography, and much more! Plan to spend one day inside, and the second day out in the field in Rocky Mountain National Park.

### For Kids!

#### Tribes & Traditions: Native Americans in RMNP

Dates: July 25; August 8

FREE for children ages 8-12

Long before us, Native Americans called this place home. Experience a fun exploration through time to learn what life was like for the Native children that lived in this area long ago. Learn how the people started their day, what they ate, and about some of their daily chores. A few of the games that some of the earliest settlers loved will also be enjoyed. Participants will learn which native people once lived in what is now Rocky Mountain National Park, and what life was like for these people long ago, as well as today.

### Antibiotic-resistant Bacteria: Resistance in Rocky

Date: July 27

Instructor: Laura Scott

Antibiotic-resistant infections are an imminent threat to human health. Could these bacteria be lurking in environments as pristine as Rocky Mountain National Park? What factors might cause them to be there? Delve into these questions and the implications of this research. Study basic microbiological field and laboratory techniques, and collect and analyze soil and water samples for antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

Support Conservancy programs in the park by donating to the Next Generation Fund at [RMConservancy.org](http://RMConservancy.org), or call 970-586-0108

## Meet Michael Allen, Conservancy Philanthropy Director

The Conservancy is pleased to introduce one of our newest staff members, Michael Allen, as the new philanthropy director for the organization. With more than 10 years of development experience, Michael joins the Conservancy from the world of climbing advocacy and conservation. In his previous role at the Access Fund, a national membership organization for rock-climbers, Michael raised funds to keep climbing areas across the United States open and conserved.

Michael grew up in the flatlands of

Oklahoma until wanderlust brought him to the Rocky Mountains in search of adventure. He explores his outdoor passions through rock-climbing, adventure travel and photography. Michael is an accomplished landscape photographer, and hunts for dramatic landscapes all over the world, including far-flung places like Iceland, Norway, and most recently, the Canadian Rockies. We are excited to add his experience and passion for wilderness conservation to the Conservancy's team.



## Park Puzzler

by RM Conservancy Member Joel Kaplow

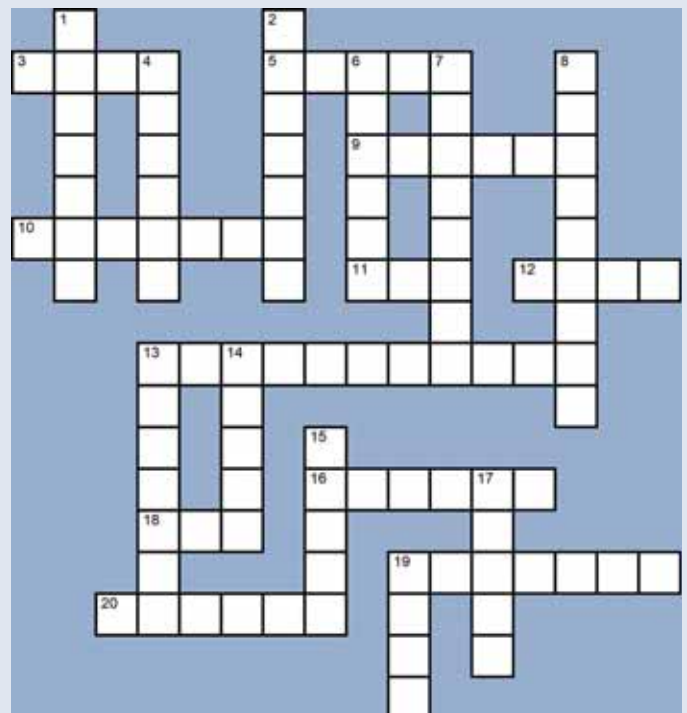
### Across

- 3** Longs Peak's summit presents itself as about \_\_\_ acres of surprisingly flat terrain. Once upon a time, it was part of a vast rolling plain which has mostly eroded away.
- 5** This year, the Conservancy's \_\_\_ Improvement Fund donations will be directed toward improving the heavily used paths at Lake Haiyaha, Dream Lake, Adams Falls and elsewhere.
- 9** If you're hiking in the subalpine/alpine ecotone (transition zone) and notice trees with branches growing on just one side of the trunk, it's a clue that the prevailing winds come from the opposite direction. These oddities are known as \_\_\_ trees.
- 10** One versatile category the Conservancy has for donations is "\_\_\_," which gives them the flexibility to channel funding for Rocky projects at their discretion, to wherever they feel it's needed the most. (2 wds)
- 11** Hold on to your hat — winds at the top of Longs Peak have been clocked at over \_\_\_ hundred miles per hour!
- 12** Rocky's yellow-bellied marmot moms will typically give birth to a litter of three to eight young. What are these tiny tots called?
- 13** Chinooks are warm, dry winds that can cause the temperature to rise tens of degrees in a few hours. Known as "snow eaters," they don't just *melt* snow, but also change it directly to water vapor, skipping the liquid state. Is this process known as: subjugation, subrogation, sublimation or subnotation?
- 16** Thanks to generous contributions to the Conservancy, Glacier Basin Campground acquired bragging rights to a state-of-the-art solar \_\_\_ last year!
- 18** If you want to personalize your Rocky Mountain National Park license plates, the number of characters allowed goes from six to seven, but at the sacrifice of the bull \_\_\_ emblem in the center.
- 19** Enos Mills' original dream was for RMNP to span the Front Range from Pikes Peak to the \_\_\_ border, but due to the power of mining, logging and ranching interests, the end product was whittled down to just the most scenic chunk of real estate.
- 20** This year, the Conservancy Conservation Corp will focus on trail maintenance in Rocky and the \_\_\_ Peaks Wilderness to its south.

### Down

- 1** In the wild, a \_\_\_-year lifespan for the yellow-bellied marmot is considered a ripe old age.
- 2** Major \_\_\_ Long first observed the fourteener that would later bear his name while mapping the area to its east in 1820.
- 4** Yellow-bellied marmots spend about \_\_\_ percent of their lives underground, including seven to eight months of the year in hibernation.
- 6** To help popularize the Estes Park area in the 1870s, Lord Dunraven commissioned famed landscape painter \_\_\_ Bierstadt to capture its beautiful scenery on canvas.

- 7** An uptick in visitation occurred when a stage line was completed between \_\_\_ and Estes Park in 1874.
- 8** Due to the misunderstanding of Colorado's drug laws, citations and arrests have risen in RMNP of late. \_\_\_ is legal in the state, but RMNP is on federal property, so no Rocky Mountain High here.
- 13** How many officially named peaks over 13,000 feet high reside in the park?
- 14** The common name for Rocky's elusive *Ursus americanus* is \_\_\_ bear, which is a tad misleading, as this critter can sport brown, blond or cinnamon fur.
- 15** The \_\_\_ is considered to be the most widespread tree in North America, as the vast area between Alaska and Arizona is its home.
- 17** At least five major ice ages have come and gone, the last being the Pleistocene \_\_\_ which ended about 12 thousand years ago, leaving behind the wonderfully ice-sculpted terrain of RMNP.
- 19** At the subalpine/alpine ecotone, you will encounter shrubs and trees that look like they're having a hard time — and at that elevation, they are! You are among krummholz, a German term that translates to "twisted or bent \_\_\_."



*Who, if not us?*

## Leave a Legacy for Rocky Mountain National Park

Some of us may never summit the highest peaks in Rocky, or hike all 350 miles of trails in the park. But there are other ways to become part of the story of Rocky Mountain National Park. Planning a deferred gift to the Rocky Mountain Conservancy in an easy way to establish your own legacy of conservation, and give back to the wilderness experience of Rocky Mountain National Park.

### Here are some common planned-gift scenarios that support the park:

- Leave assets to the Conservancy in your will or estate plans. Our staff can provide you with sample language to amend your will.
- Name the Conservancy as a beneficiary of your life insurance, retirement plan or annuity.
- Establish a charitable trust to provide the Conservancy with income now, and later, you can either return assets to your heirs or pass them along to the Conservancy to make a legacy gift.

We invite you to contact us and learn about some of the ways you can leave assets, retirement income, or a portion of your estate to the Conservancy. We are ready



to help you identify and craft a plan to ensure that your legacy gift is invested in the Conservancy's mission, according to your personal and philanthropic goals.

If you've included the Conservancy in your estate plans — at any amount — please let us know. We would love an opportunity to acknowledge your commitment, and simply pay tribute to those who give with an eye to the future. We also honor anonymous gifts.

Making a planned gift to the Rocky Mountain Conservancy helps to ensure that the vitality and preservation of Rocky lives on — and that our beloved park remains protected and conserved for the next generation.



*Conservancy Executive Director Estee Rivera Murdock met with Nature Store Clerk Pat Washburn to give her this stunning Erik Stensland photo plaque in honor of her tenure with the Conservancy.*

## Conservancy Recognizes Pat Washburn's 25 Years of Service



The Rocky Mountain Conservancy is delighted to recognize Pat Washburn for her 25 years as a sales clerk for Conservancy Nature Stores in park visitor centers. Much of her service has been based out of Moraine Park Discovery Center Nature Store in Rocky Mountain National Park.

A summer resident of Estes Park since 1970, Pat carries a great deal of Estes Park history with her. Pat spent her early summers in Estes Park where her grandparents, Joe and Ethel Mills, had

built their dream — Craggs Lodge. Their daughter Peg married Dorr Yeager, the first ranger at Rocky Mountain National Park, and the founder of the Rocky Mountain Conservancy (née Nature Association) in 1931.

An annual celebration dinner was held at the YMCA in October to honor Conservancy staff for various levels of tenure with the organization, and photographic plaques created by local photographer Erik Stensland were given as gifts.



## Rocky Converts East Shore Trail to Become the First Bike Trail in the Park



Completed bike trail along east shore of Shadow Mountain Lake Photo: NPS



Bike trail corridor cleared to specs Photo: NPS

by Doug Parker,  
RMNP Trails Supervisor

Just on the edge of the town of Grand Lake lies the East Shore Trail. It runs through the National Park, winding along the edge of Shadow Mountain Lake to the Green Ridge Campground to the south. In 2015, an Environmental Assessment was conducted that examined the suitability of mountain bike travel on this trail. Following a finding of “no significant impact,” park managers decided to convert the existing trail into one suitable for mountain bikes. This marks a significant moment for bike riders as the first mountain bike trail in Rocky Mountain National Park (RMNP), and one of the first in the National Park Service as a whole.

RMNP Trail Crew employees partnered with the Headwaters Trails Alliance (HTA), a nonprofit advocacy organization for trails in Grand County to execute this project. Work began in earnest this past fall. Park trail workers, HTA affiliates, and volunteers

worked to fell dead hazard trees, improve the tread surface, build stone retaining walls, and reroute portions of the trail to more sustainable alignments. The goal is for the trail to be smooth, relatively flat, and comfortable for all skill levels to ride.

At this time, much of the work has been completed along the two miles of park-owned land. Trail Crew staff will return next fall, working from September through the end of October so as to limit impact to nesting osprey in the area. This phase of construction will focus on building raised wooden boardwalks that elevate the trail through two small wetland areas. Work is planned to be finalized around this time, with bikes officially allowed shortly thereafter.

When complete, the trail will allow riders from the nearby Green Ridge campground to travel into town. Alternately, Grand Lake residents will be able to enjoy a scenic lakeside bike ride along the edge of park wilderness.

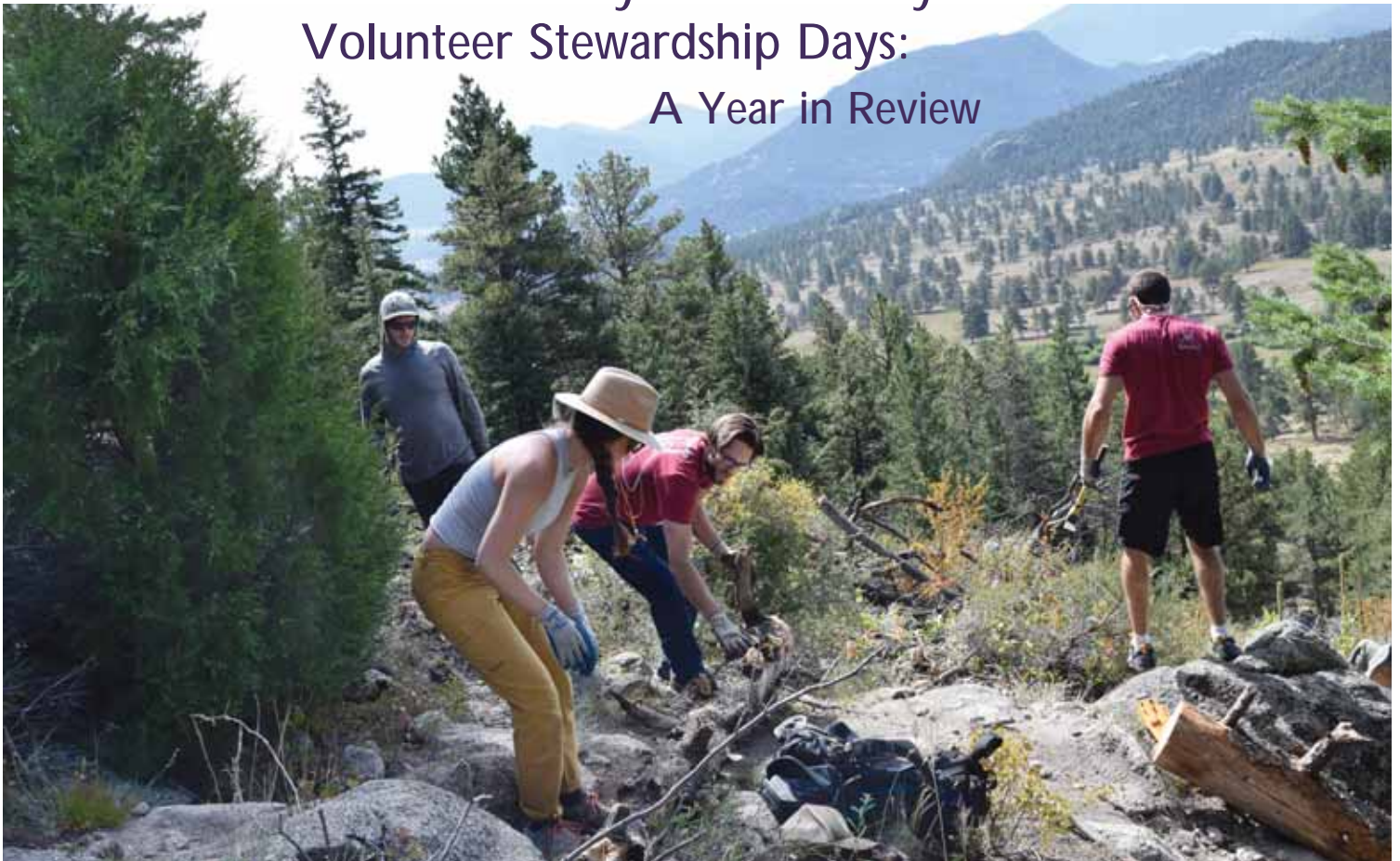


Grade reversals were constructed to minimize erosion. Photo: NPS



Finished trail tread Photo: NPS

## The Conservancy's Community Volunteer Stewardship Days: A Year in Review



For a number of years, the Conservancy has offered members a few opportunities to volunteer in Rocky Mountain National Park. In 2018, the Conservancy ramped up this effort to include a full schedule of volunteer events, both for the general public and for local community organizations. This schedule included 14 volunteer events, nine opportunities for the public, and five days for community organizations and youth groups. Over the course of

these opportunities, the Conservancy was able to mobilize 335 volunteers, including 153 young people, in support of conservation projects in Rocky Mountain National Park and the Roosevelt National Forest. Projects focused on trail maintenance and construction, habitat restoration through invasive species removal, fire-fuels reduction, and litter cleanups. In total, the Conservancy supported 1,481 volunteer hours, which equates to more than \$36,500 of in-kind service (based on the independent sector value for volunteer time, <https://independentsector.org/value-of-volunteer-time-2018/>).

Each of these projects supports local land managers' missions to conserve the natural landscapes, while promoting public enjoyment of these protected areas.

Stay tuned to the Conservancy website for the 2019 Community Volunteer Stewardship Event calendar which will be posted in April 2019, to learn about opportunities and register for dates.

*Trails projects help ensure that hiking trails are safe and sustainable by repairing trail surface, rebuilding or rerouting damaged areas, clearing trail corridors of fallen or encroaching vegetation, and mitigating erosional forces with the construction of drainages.*

*Photos: Conservancy Conservation Director Geoff Elliot*





*Habitat restoration fosters native plant growth and natural ecosystem function by removing invasive plants from the landscape.*



*Fire-fuels reduction helps protect infrastructure, visitors, local communities, and firefighters by reducing the fuel load for future wildfires and creating a buffer zone around populated areas.*



*Litter cleanups help protect wildlife from ingesting or being affected by trash, and promote Leave No Trace ethics by encouraging visitors to properly dispose of waste.*

## Community Volunteer Stewardship Events in 2018

- April 22 National Ocean and Science Bowl Service Day — Trails
- May 19 Colorado Public Lands Day — Litter Cleanup
- June 2 National Trails Day — Trails
- June 26 East-Side Vegetation Project — Habitat Restoration
- July 25 Colorado River District Vegetation Project — Habitat Restoration
- August 5 Poudre Wilderness Volunteers Project — Trails
- August 25 Founders Day/Rocky Mountain Rendezvous — Trails
- August 26 Rocky Mountain Rendezvous (Day 2) — Litter Cleanup
- September 8 Nature Kids/Jovenes de la Naturaleza — Litter Cleanup
- September 11 Day of Service and Remembrance — Fire Fuels
- September 22 National Public Lands Day — Litter Cleanup
- September 28 Volunteer for Outdoor Colorado:  
CAIRN Youth Program — Fire Fuels
- October 2 National Trails Act 50th Anniversary — Trails
- October 16 Colorado State University: Conservation Leadership through Learning — Trails

Thank you!

## Local and National Brands Show Support

In the midst of the government shutdown, local businesses are stepping up to help keep visitor centers open. Amy Hamrick, owner of Kind Coffee in Estes Park, donated \$2,100 to the Conservancy to help cover operating expenses for the Fall River Visitors Center. “As a business owner in Estes Park, I am exceptionally sensitive to the need for our visitors to have a point of contact during this government shutdown, which has cut off access to most of Rocky Mountain National Park. There is still so much for them to experience, and the Conservancy’s role in keeping the Fall River Visitor Center open is integral to our success. And, as a personal supporter of the conservation and preservation of our public lands, I cannot thank the Conservancy enough for their role in sharing Leave No Trace principles while the park is unsupervised,” said Hamrick.

Corporate partnerships are a growing form of support to the Conservancy. Some national brands that are looking to authentically appeal to their customers are increasingly partnering with the Conservancy to highlight their support for wilderness protection and conservation. The Conservancy benefits from not only cash, but also in-kind donations that can be used to support its mission in small but significant ways.

If your business is interested in partnering with the Conservancy, please contact Michael Allen, philanthropy director, at 720-845-5690.

**(City Girl** *continued from page 1*)

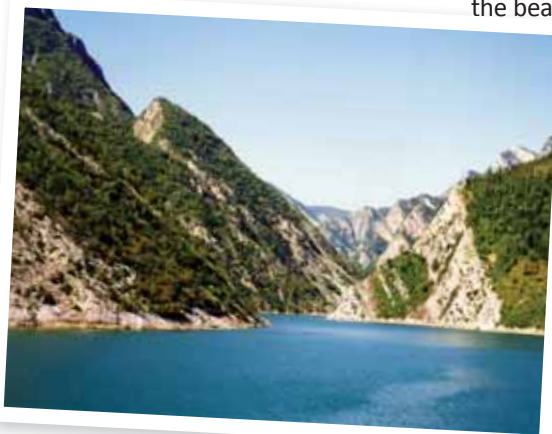
tarian regimes in Eastern Europe had fallen, Erik and I decided to move to a small town in the northern mountains of Albania to do what we could to help rebuild what 50 years of severe dictatorship had destroyed. I would jokingly tell people that to get there you had to take the road to the end of nowhere and then take a left — it felt so incredibly isolated and remote. Part of getting there involved a ferry trip down a gorgeous fjord-like canyon. I will never forget the first time we traveled that river, stunned by the beauty, and feeling as though we were entering a magical, lost world. But even on this first ferry ride, when I saw people throwing their trash into this beautiful river, I got a glimpse of how humans can spoil the beauty they are given.

The town itself had little that was attractive, but from the balcony of our crumbling apartment building, you could see mountains, the unique and impressive Dinaric Alps. My experience of mountains was limited up to that point, but here I was living right next to some stunning peaks. Each day, when I looked out and saw the snowclad summits, something began to stir in me. I longed to be out there among them and to experience their magnificence.

I met no argument in Erik, so as soon as we were settled, we set off on the potholed road out of town and headed toward the mountains. Even though the valley we were entering was, in many ways, storybook idyllic, we saw that some of the hillsides had been entirely denuded of trees, and the crystal streams carried bits of garbage along with them. There had once been bears and wolves roaming in these mountains, but the only animals here now were dogs and household chickens. It was sad and baffling. Why ruin such a paradise in this way? Of course, part of the explanation lay in the poverty and desperation the population had lived under for so many years. But it upset me. I would expend a lot of energy attempting to teach people why throwing refuse into the beautiful river was a



terrible thing, but they would just say, "It's a big river — one soda can isn't going to make any difference." But of course, one soda can *does* make a difference. One person trail-cutting *does* make a difference. One person feeding (or killing) the wildlife *does* make a difference. The effect of one person is multiplied again and again until the beauti-



ful wilderness we so admire is changed, damaged and worn, no longer able to nourish us in the way our souls deeply crave.

In January 2004, after a decade in the Balkan peninsula, we moved to Allenspark, Colorado, then later to Estes Park, where we experienced the great happiness of finding ourselves next to Rocky Mountain National Park. It seemed like we were the luckiest people alive, to be able to hike, explore, smell the pine trees, sit in silence with just the rustle of leaves



to disturb us — all of this at any time we desired. We had been worn down in our non-stop work and the pressures of post-war Balkans. We had been exhausted by all we witnessed and the constant demands. Rocky Mountain National Park swept us into its embrace and whispered new life and strength into our spirits.

During the past 15 years, Rocky Mountain National Park has continued to nurture and restore us. But at the same time, we have seen the same attitude that we encountered in postcommunist

Europe now creeping into American society, that of taking our wilderness for granted. Instead of allowing nature to gently exist, we want to grab at it and use it. People say, "What difference will one piece of garbage make? What difference will it make if I feed just one pika? What difference will it make if I take a shortcut over the tundra? I'm only one person after all, what harm can I do?" But one person is all it takes to start a chain of reactions that can cause irreparable damage. We have seen trails grow from two feet wide when we arrived 15 years ago to five feet wide or more today; human waste is everywhere; you can find candy wrappers deep in the forest; and the silence — that deep, restoring silence — is now more elusive.

But just as one person can cause long-lasting damage, one person can begin to heal and repair the wilderness they have been given. I may not be Isabella Bird. I may be just a transplanted city girl. But as one human being, I can bring positive change. I do it every time I pack out my trash and every time I choose to walk through the mud in the middle of the trail. I bring change whenever I am gentle and kind to the forest in which I quietly hike. And as I listen to the rustling of the trees, to the birds, to the sounds of the

marmots going about their day, and as I watch the eagle soar above the forests, Rocky Mountain National Park gives back to this city girl far more than she could ever have taken from it. It gives me back my soul.



# Rocky Mountain Conservancy

*The Rocky Mountain Conservancy expresses special thanks to the following people for their donations supporting Rocky Mountain National Park:*

October 25, 2018 – January 9, 2019

Total gifts: 1,392 ~ Total donations: \$540,127

## MEMORIAL BENCH FUND

Sherrie Miller, Highlands Ranch, CO:  
In memory of Joe McMinn

## CASCADE COTTAGES FUND

David Perry and Kathleen Meier,  
Point Pleasant, PA

## EDUCATION & OUTREACH FUND

Mark DeGregorio, Masonville, CO

## FIELD INSTITUTE KID'S PROGRAM FUND

Wild Tribute, Salt Lake City, UT  
Rockcut Brewing Co., Estes Park, CO

## FALL RIVER VISITOR CENTER FUND

Dr. and Mrs. John G. Christiano,  
Tequesta, FL:  
In memory of John P. Christiano and  
in honor of Marilyn Hubbard

## CONSERVANCY GENERAL OPERATIONS FUND

R.C. Kemper Charitable Trust,  
Kansas City, MO  
The Denver Foundation/Walter C. Emery  
Family Foundation, Denver, CO:  
In memory of Walter C. Emery  
The Losam Fund/Samuel W. Lambert,  
Princeton, NJ

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND

Dave and Corinne Lively, Grand Lake, CO

## HOLZWARTH TROUT LODGE FUND

Renate Edmundson, Estes Park, CO

## LAND PROTECTION FUND

Nico Archer, Boulder, CO:

In honor of Michael Todd Snell  
Vaughn Baker, Estes Park, CO  
Greg Barnes, Atlanta, GA  
April Bedard, Denver, CO:

In memory of Richard S. Trzcunski  
Joseph Bernardi, Boulder, CO:  
In honor of Elizabeth Korb  
Lynda Price Bohager, Hanover, PA:

In honor of Forestry  
Operations Specialists  
Alonia and Ryan Calvert,  
College Station, TX:

In honor of Steven and Tanya Dutro  
Nelson Chenkin and Judith Friend,  
Fort Collins, CO

Michael and Rochelle Clayton,  
Riverwoods, IL  
Catherine Cozzarelli, Washington, DC  
Bruce Darby, Key West, FL  
Mary Ann Dornfeld, Lafayette, CO  
Vickie Ferguson, Farmington, AR:

In memory of John Denver  
L. C. Fulenwider III, Denver, CO  
Julie Guzzetta, Estes Park, CO  
John and Patricia Hayes, Littleton, CO:  
In memory of Dr. Darwin R. Spearing  
Margaret and John Henderson, Belton, TX:

In honor of  
Mary Cast and Charles Blome  
Fiona Hynes, Chappaqua, NY:  
In honor of Kristin Goett  
Steven and Jenifer Johnson, Fort Collins, CO  
Linda and Kenneth Kovar, Fort Collins, CO  
Karl Long, Houston, TX  
Patrice Mallette, Longmont, CO  
Edward and Patty McAuliffe,  
Westminster, CO  
Terry and Catherine Nance,  
Overland Park, KS

Derk and Marjorie Osenberg, Chicago, IL  
Sandy Perkins, Howard, KS  
Lynda and Denny Phillips,  
Colorado Springs, CO  
Cason Pierce, Denver, CO  
Lanie Preston, Hamilton, MA:  
In honor of Susan Foster

Diane Rammelsberg, Libertyville, IL  
Austin Rice, West Glacier, MT  
Deirdre and Paul Rothery, Broomfield, CO  
Carlen Schenk and Barry Brezan,  
New Berlin, WI

Bryan Schlingman, Delta, CO  
Elizabeth Schoeberlein, Boulder, CO  
Dana Smith, Westminster, CO  
Shane Sperry, Parker, CO  
Thomas and Linda Stanar,  
Highlands Ranch, CO  
Janet Stonington, Louisville, CO

Kenneth and Rachel Towbin, Potomac, MD  
Alexander Weiss and Susan Rowley,  
Evanston, IL  
Mr. and Mrs. Adam Williams,  
Wildwood, MO  
Lorraine Wilson, Lafayette, CO

## ENDOWMENT FUND

Kenneth Gamauf, Boulder, CO

## NEXT GENERATION PUBLICATIONS FUND

Jon Sonstroem, Surprise, AZ

## NEXT GENERATION FUND

Brenda L. Adamson, Aurora, CO  
Bruce and Cindy Bachleder, Littleton, CO  
Eleonore Barron, Pinckney, MI:  
Matthew Bruehl, Greeley, CO:

In honor of Thomas and Elaine Meyer  
Wally and Laurine Burke, Estes Park, CO  
Art Campfield, Fort Collins, CO  
Sandra Cardillo, Fort Collins, CO  
Carole Cotham, Corvallis, OR  
Joanie Crockett, Estes Park, CO  
Janice K. Dame, Bolingbrook, IL  
Danny Dawidowski, Estes Park, CO:  
In memory of Lawrence H. Weting  
Danny Dawidowski, Estes Park, CO:  
In memory of Lucille Jean Weting  
Lois and Bruce Ellingwood, Estes Park, CO

John Fielder, Silverthorne, CO  
Mary Fredrickson, Longmont, CO  
Patti Freudenburg and Family,  
Colorado Springs, CO:  
In memory of Betty and  
Eldon Freudenburg  
Daniel Goyette and Kathy Falk,  
River Hills, WI

Mrs. O.W. Hampton, Estes Park, CO:  
In memory of Bud Hampton  
Judy L. Heider, Estes Park, CO  
David and Marjean Heidt, Englewood, CO  
Chuck and Jeanne Jerden, Denver, CO  
Janet I. Kilgore, Estes Park, CO  
Ben and Christina Kraft, Estes Park, CO  
Gary Kubik, Omaha, NE  
Marcia Logan, Estes Park, CO  
Betty J. Luttkus, Aurora, CO:

In memory of George Luttkus  
Doug and Lynette Mannering, Loveland, CO  
Carole and David McFarland,  
Cedar Rapids, IA  
Kathy McRuiz, Tulsa, OK:

In memory of Karen Lohmann  
George D. Miller, Punta Gorda, FL  
Ruth Minter, Loveland, CO  
Merle and Patricia Moore, Estes Park, CO  
Esther Rivera Murdock, Estes Park, CO  
Ruth Nelson, Simsbury, CT:

In memory of Hank Nelson and  
his brother Bill Nelson  
James and Terry Pfister, Wichita, KS  
Dianne and Richard Pratt, Durango, CO  
Annette Ready, Cincinnati, OH:

In honor of Nikki Marksberry  
Carol and John Redd, Katy, TX  
William Riley and Norma Riley, Omaha, NE  
Alice Schwartz and Margot Davis,  
Estes Park, CO:

In memory of Jerry Rosenblum  
Beverly Sencenbaugh, Colorado Springs, CO  
Dana Shonbeck and James Orshaw,  
Somerville, MA:

In honor of Scott and Michelle Shonbeck  
Mark and Gwen Sparr, Boulder, CO  
Thomas and Linda Stanar,  
Highlands Ranch, CO  
William and Shirley Sterling, Jr.,  
Georgetown, TX

Maurita Stueck, Monroe, OH  
Barbara and Ralph Swanson, Phillips, WI  
Jill Trawick, San Antonio, TX:

In honor of Jenny Trawick  
Carole K. Tuttle, Fort Collins, CO:  
In memory of Darwin R. Spearing  
Chuck Westerheide, Edmond, OK  
The Peterson Charitable Lead Trust,  
Houston, TX:

In memory of Anna Fye and  
Harry Peterson  
Elizabeth Elser Doolittle Charitable  
Trusts/Elizabeth Markham Nicholson and  
Philip T. Nicholson, Milwaukee, WI:  
In memory of Elizabeth Elser Doolittle  
Todd Family Foundation, Greeley, CO

All In Memory of Andrew Wells Barron  
Rebecca Bartlett, Wauwatosa, WI:  
Catherine Petito Boyce, Seattle, WA  
Elaine Hawley, Fairfax, VA:  
Lyle Johnson, Ann Arbor, MI  
Jennifer Steiner, Ann Arbor, MI

## RMNP EMPLOYEE HOUSING FUND

Fred and Catherine Gaupp, Covington, LA

## CONSERVATION CORPS FUND

LaVerne Anderson, Boulder, CO  
Evelyn Beebe, Monument, CO  
Steven and Cindy Brant, Beulah, MI:  
In memory of Eldon Dale Schwartz  
Curt and Heidi Buchholtz, Estes Park, CO:

In honor of Bruce Dines  
Shelly Catterson, Pinecliffe, CO  
Richard and Janet Coe, Estes Park, CO  
Robert and Kimberly Copple, Manhattan, KS  
Carolyn and Darryl DeMara, Lafayette,  
CO

Daniel and Donna Dilts, Albuquerque, NM:  
In honor of Dan and Linda Dilts  
Katherine Dines and David Miller,  
Denver, CO:  
In honor of Bruce Dines

Gregg and Dana Dupree, McKinney, TX:  
**In memory of Margie Hillin Dupree**  
Braeden Fallet, Westminster, CO  
Tom and Fran Fike, Brighton, CO:

**In honor of John Denver**

Mary Ann Franke, Estes Park, CO  
Maryann Gaug, Silverthorne, CO  
John and Lynne Geweke, Estes Park, CO  
Jo Ann Hasselmann, Monroe, IA  
Michael and Kathy Kane, Fort Collins, CO  
Peggy Keefer and Mike Sargeant,  
Canon City, CO:

**In honor of their children  
and grandchildren**

Daniel Klein, Aurora, CO  
Andrew Maldonado, Armonk, NY  
Kathryn Moore, Eden Prairie, MN:  
**In honor of Robert and Norma Moore**  
Scott Nicholson, Broomfield, CO  
Carla Personette, Rockford, IL:

**In memory of Stephen Personette**

Anne Peters, Boulder, CO  
Rodger K. and Holly Poage, Montrose, CO  
Dianne and Richard Pratt, Durango, CO  
David and Janet Robertson, Boulder, CO  
John Rossie, Ottumwa, IA  
MaryBeth Schommer, Longmont, CO  
Kurt and Patricia Sommer, Estes Park, CO  
Thomas and Linda Stanar,  
Highlands Ranch, CO  
Cynthia Story, Louisville, CO

**In honor of Charlotte Sennett,**

**Cindy Sennett, Beth Sennett-Porter  
and Randy Porter**

**Marvin Woolf and Hannah Huse,  
Boulder, CO**

Susan Yablans, Centennial, CO  
Lynn L. Young, Fort Collins, CO  
Community Foundation of Northern  
Colorado/James and Gail Cozette  
Charitable Fund, Fort Collins, CO  
Fidelity Charitable/Eide Charitable Fund,  
Cincinnati, OH  
Parks Project, LLC, Marina Del Rey, CA

**SEARCH & RESCUE/  
WILDERNESS  
EDUCATION FUND**

Renate Edmundson, Estes Park, CO  
Robert and Katherine Gould, Cambridge, WI  
Frank Morris, Greeley, CO  
Brian and Debby Ross, Denver, CO:  
**In memory of Albert Stevens**

**All in Memory of (Jens) Jay Yambert:**

Bruce and Kendra Andree, Champaign, IL  
James and Jacqueline Barkmeier,  
Champaign, IL  
Paul and Amy Bemis, New Berlin, WI  
Gregg Bentler, Coralville, IA  
Gary and Laura Brinkley, Champaign, IL  
Michael and Pamela Brown, Champaign, IL  
Michael and Margaret Bushman,  
Indianapolis, IN  
Taylor and Jodi Clark, Champaign, IL  
Margie Delheimer, Tuscola, IL  
Crystal Dillavou, Tolono, IL  
Maureen Donofrio, Rossville, IL  
Robert and Jane Elliott, Champaign, IL  
Robert and Mary Ann Espeseth, Savoy, IL  
Krystal Fitzpatrick, Champaign, IL  
Jona Franklin, Farmer City, IL  
Larry and Janna Franks, Philo, IL  
Robert and Cynthia Furtney, Champaign, IL  
Shirley Furtney, Champaign, IL  
Kostas Gallaras, Savoy, IL

Anthony and Susan Griffin, Jacksonville, IL  
Susan Hartman, Sidney, IL  
Meredith Hecker, Champaign, IL  
Daniel and Nancy Hiner, Champaign, IL  
James Kammer, Monticello, IL

Curtis and Susan Krock, Champaign, IL  
Walter and Lisa Lotz, Champaign, IL  
Malec and Zahia Mokraoui, Champaign, IL  
Janet Monke, Bloomington, IL:

Carol and Steve Myers, Champaign, IL  
James and Gayle Nogle, Champaign, IL  
James and Jane Piercy, Champaign, IL  
Valerie Pollard and Timothy Meneely,  
Champaign, IL

Jack and Diana Quigg, Urbana, IL  
David and Allyson Rotramel,  
Champaign, IL

John and Johannah Schweighart,  
Camargo, IL  
Robert and Lucia Scully, Champaign, IL  
Robert and Ann Kenny Slesinski,  
Champaign, IL

Gregory and Vicky Smith, Champaign, IL  
Daniel Tappendorf, Champaign, IL  
Edward and Joyce Wagner, Champaign, IL

John and Joy Walker, Champaign, IL  
Robert and Leisa Weatherford,  
Champaign, IL  
E. Landrum Young, Savoy, IL  
Carle Convenient Care, Danville, IL

**TRAIL IMPROVEMENT  
FUND**

Rick and Kate Adams, Danielsville, PA  
Richard and Sarah Amos, Minneapolis, MN  
Norma L. Andersen, Fort Collins, CO:

**In memory of Peg Froberg**

Gil and Susan, Estes Park, CO:  
**In memory of Grant and Joy Begley**  
Bach and Nancy Bakehouse, Hastings, IA  
Cristi R. Baldino, Johnstown, CO  
Benjamin Bauman, San Antonio, TX:

**In honor of the Schubert Family**

Evelyn Beebe, Monument, CO  
Jennifer and Robert Bell, Omaha, NE:  
**In honor of Rich and Karen Sandberg**  
Gary and Jenee Berning, Dallas, TX  
Yvonne Besvold, Burbank, CA  
Rod Betsch, Castle Rock, CO

Kelley and Ron Beuchat, Topeka, KS  
David and Mary Ann Bilely, Erie, PA  
Richard and Judith Bliley, Erie, PA  
Cynthia Brady, Oklahoma City, OK:

**In memory of Lelah McKee**

Dennis and Marcia Braff, Boca Raton, FL  
Patricia Brand, Longmont, CO  
Virginia Brant, Loveland, CO:

**In Memory of Nick Brant**

Charles Britton, Fayetteville, AR:  
**In memory of Jana**

James and Janel Brown, Longmont, CO  
Judy Byrd, Atlanta, GA  
Sherry and Dennis Caldwell, Estes Park, CO  
D'Ann Campbell, Billings, MT  
Marjorie A. Carr, Gladstone, MO  
Patrick Clifford, Boulder, CO

Colleen Cochrane, Omaha, NE  
Todd Coleman, Aurora, CO  
Jeffrey and Susan Conklin, Loudon, TN  
Julie L. Conrique, Monument, CO

Robert and Kimberly Copple, Manhattan, KS  
Charles and Trudy Cowman, Woodbury, MN  
Walt and Sandra Cox, Blue Grass, IA  
Carolyn Crabtree, Aurora, IL  
Barbara Crangle, Moline, IL  
John Cullen, Annapolis, MD

Joyce Cunningham, Baton Rouge, LA  
Julimarie Dagen, Norton Shores, MI:  
**In honor of Marc McCurry**  
Bridget Dalton, Lafayette, CO  
Bill and Johanna Darden, Estes Park, CO  
James Davis, Somers Point, NJ  
David and Sandra Dent, Warrenton, MO  
Laura Derrington, Memphis, TN  
Brian and Louise Desmond, Estes Park, CO  
Richard Dietz, Greeley, CO  
Winston Dines, La Jolla, CA  
Barbara J. Dowd, Cedar Falls, IA  
William and Ann Duncan, Boulder, CO  
William and Cynthia Eaton, Palm City, FL  
Pam and Edmund Egliniski, Lawrence, KS:

**In honor of James Disney**  
Elizabeth Eliot, Denver, CO  
Larry and Linda Emsing, Estes Park, CO  
Marian and Rasmus Erdal, Fort Collins, CO  
Bob Feathers, Fort Meyers, FL  
Bill and Anne Fitzgerald, Fremont, NE  
David and Debra Flitter, Denver, CO  
Jerome and Norma Fricke, Golden, CO  
Eric Froehlich, Severn, CO  
Rita Gaddis, Boulder, CO  
Harvey Gardiner, Niwot, CO  
Ruth and Jim Gaulke, Parker, CO  
Wanda Gentile, Colorado Springs, CO  
Bill and Susan Gentle, Cheyenne, WY:

**In memory of Ruth Ashton Nelson**  
Charles George, Lawrence, KS  
Mari Lane Gewecke, Lincoln, NE  
Janice and Wayne Gibb, Berthoud, CO  
James and Yvonne Glendenning,  
Mount Vernon, WA  
Charlotte Godbey, Springfield, IL  
Melanie Gorrell, Greenwood, IN:

**In memory of Dave Jacks**  
Daniel and Stephanie Gossett, Eaton, CO  
Donna Hahn, Estes Park, CO  
Todd and Kathrin Harris, Grayslake, IL:  
**In memory of Matthew Long**  
Susan Harris, Estes Park, CO:  
**In memory of Ron Harris**  
Nellie Hastings, Orland Park, IL  
Cheryl Hayman, Colorado Springs, CO  
Christine and James Hazen, Lexington, NC  
Joseph and Judith Heck, Racine, WI  
Marvin and Marilyn Heller, Loveland, CO:  
**In memory of Glenn and Gen Channer**  
Margaret and John Henderson, Belton, TX:

**In honor of Matthew Firth**  
Margaret and John Henderson, Belton, TX:  
**In honor of Michael Fratiani**  
Joan and Lou Henefeld, Golden, CO  
Lynda Hensing, Grinnell, IA  
Richard and Diane Heppner, Claremont, CA:

**In honor of Betsy Heppner**  
Elizabeth Heppner, Boulder, CO  
Josephine Hereford, Saint Louis, MO  
Susanne Hicks, Nashville, TN  
Carol Holden, Tiburon, CA  
Carol Hundley, Homer Glen, IL:  
**In memory of John G. Hundley**  
Kathleen and Lindell R. Hurst Jr, Katy, TX  
David and Nancy Hurt, Loveland, CO  
Katherine Hutson, West Orange, NJ:

**In honor of Dr. Julie Currie Miller**  
James Irvine, Estes Park, CO  
Ronald Jenkins, Dublin, OH:  
**In memory of George and Virginia Jenkins**  
Mary Johnson, Longmont, CO  
Scott and Melanie Joy, Denver, CO  
Jan Justice-Waddington, Golden, CO  
Lufthansa Kanta, Katy, TX  
Joel Kaplow, Broomfield, CO  
F. Kasperek, Williamsburg, VA  
James Keller, Erie, CO:

**In memory of Michael Glaze**  
David Kempkes, Estes Park, CO  
Robert Kendig, Denver, CO  
Virginia and Raymon Kent, Estes Park, CO  
Peter and Janet Kim, Olympia, WA  
Susan King, Valparaiso, IN  
Thomas and Gretchen Kirk,  
Germantown, TN  
The Klein Family, Shawnee, KS:  
**In memory of Noel Klein**  
Gerald and Donna Klinefelter, Kewadin, MI  
Gilbert and Mary Knapp, Spencer, NY  
Alice E. Knox, Denver, CO  
M.L. and Christine Korhage, Wichita, KS  
Penny Kragie, Loveland, CO  
Gary Kubik, Omaha, NE  
Scott and Nina Kunze, Fort Collins, CO  
John Kuzan and Patti Vocker, Tampa, FL  
Paul and Joan Lavell, Boulder, CO  
Art and Trudi Leissa, Fort Collins, CO  
James Leupold, Erie, CO  
Kay Linder, Fort Collins, CO:  
**In memory of William Arthur Wilde**  
Shirley Lindley, Fort Collins, CO  
Christopher Link, Boulder, CO  
Dora and Paul Lorimer, Orange, TX  
Jonathan Ludwig, Stillwater, OK  
Lee Machin, Estes Park, CO  
Paul and Kimberly Madden, Owasso, OK  
Gene Mammenga and Char Brooker,  
Maplewood, MN  
Catherine and Gregory Marich, McLean, VA  
Kathy Marlow, West Des Moines, IA  
Stephen A. Massad, Houston, TX  
Helen Masterson, Arvada, CO  
Marc McCurry, Muskegon, MI  
Linda McKee, Estes Park, CO  
Muffy and Mike McLanahan, Houston, TX  
Susan McNally, Masonville, CO:

**In honor of Jon Miller**  
James and Tricia Medlock, Fort Collins, CO  
Mary Meier, Des Moines, IA  
K C and Regine Mericle,  
Highlands Ranch, CO  
Maxine Mestas, Mead, CO  
Tamra Mitchell, Cedar Rapids, IA  
Frances and Albert Mitterer, Arvada, CO:  
**In memory of Betty Hedlund**  
Sharon Montini, Berthoud, CO  
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Moore, Little Rock, AR:  
**In honor of Dr. and Mrs. Dean Kumpuris**  
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Moore, Little Rock, AR:  
**In honor of Dr. Dean Kumpuris**  
Douglas and Rosemary Moore, Loveland, CO  
Rockie and Susan Mosier, Tallahassee, FL  
Christine Mueller, Longmont, CO  
Janice and William Newman,  
Fort Collins, CO  
Debra Ore, Fairway, KS  
Christopher and Linda Paris, Boulder, CO  
Gary Parker, Centennial, CO  
Katherine Parran, Upper Marlboro, MD:  
**In honor of Susan Harris**  
Tammy Pelnik, Louisville, CO  
Sondra Perry, Grand Prairie, TX:  
**In memory of Jim Perry**  
Sheila Petterson, Fort Myers Beach, FL  
Lisa Polazzi, Valparaiso, IN  
Prescilla and Robert Pries, Golden, CO  
Paul Pryzant and Victoria Blanks,  
Houston, TX  
Ericka Quezada, Bailey, CO  
Ralph Quinones, Denver, CO:  
**In honor of Lia, Frank, Alex,  
Frankie and Lindsey**  
Sarah and David Read, Columbia, MO  
Ronald and Rebecca Reeve, Palatine, IL  
Louis and Patricia Riedmann, Omaha, NE  
Patricia Riggs, Dallas, TX  
William and Norma Riley, Omaha, NE  
Nancy and Stanley Roberts, Longmont, CO

- Mr. and Mrs. William Robertson,  
Colorado Springs, CO  
Linda Rogers, Golden, CO  
Marc Roper, Denver, CO  
John Rossie, Ottumwa, IA
- Mark and Elizabeth Rowan, Aurora, CO  
Mel and Gray Rueppel, Estes Park, CO  
Merry Lou and Louis Rutar, Thurston, NE:
- In memory of Kenneth Kratky**  
William and Lori Sandberg, Parker, CO  
Marla Schiebout, Loveland, CO:
- In honor of Ruth Hess**  
Larry and Kathy Schnuck, Whitefish Bay, WI  
Lorraine Schraut, Saint Louis, MO  
John and Gwendolyn Scott, Fort Collins, CO  
Patricia Scott, Loveland, CO  
Julia and William Short, Caulfield, MO  
Julie Smith, Ankeny, IA:
- In honor of Randy Loomis**  
Troy and Sue Smith, Dallas, TX  
Christopher Snyder, Carmel, IN  
Russell and Kathleen Srack,  
Pleasant Valley, MO:
- In honor of Paul Srack**  
Charles Stanley, Frederick, CO:
- In honor of their grandson, Owen**  
Don and Chris Steger, Placitas, NM  
Erik Stensland, Estes Park, CO  
Mike and Carol Stolz, Fort Collins, CO  
Jane Stotts, Blue Ash, OH  
Kevin and Janice Stout, Dillon, CO  
David and Carla Stutts, Houston, TX  
Daniel and Debra Swanson, Loveland, CO  
William and Nancy Sweet, Denver, CO  
Andrew and Margaret Theodos,  
Saint Albans, WV
- Leonard and Betty Todd, Lenexa, KS  
Richard and Roberta Ufford,  
Silver Spring, MD  
Mark and Jodi Voyles, Luther, OK  
Rob and Fran Wagner, Canton, MI  
Jennifer Warner, Greenwood, IN  
Cara and Eric Welch, Brighton, CO  
Melanie White, Frisco, TX:
- In honor of Terrell Miller**  
J. Michael and Peggy Wilson,  
Whitefish Bay, WI  
Suzy Winchester, Boca Raton, FL  
Mary Alice and Larry Woody, Kailua, HI  
Irene Yap, Longmont, CO  
Bill and Pamela Zarrella, Boca Raton, FL  
Fidelity Charitable/John and Karen Mize,  
Cincinnati, OH  
John R Wilson Foundation, Golden, CO  
The T. Rowe Price Program for Charitable  
Giving/The Arthur and Denise Foley Fam-  
ily Charitable Gift fund, Baltimore, MD  
Vanguard Charitable/Janet Prehn,  
Warwick, RI  
Western Colorado Community  
Foundation/Admire Family Memorial  
Fund, Grand Junction, CO  
Barbara Williams, Tabernash, CO
- David Alexander, St. Louis, MO  
Mary and James Alfred, La Grange Park, IL  
Allstate: The Giving Campaign/  
Kurt Knutson, Norfolk, VA  
Alpine Concrete Construction, Inc.,  
Divide, CO  
AmazonSmile Foundation, Seattle, WA  
American Endowment Foundation/Ruth  
Medak Charitable Fund, Hudson, OH  
Rachel Ames, Estes Park, CO  
Swami Anantananda, Hurleyville, NY  
Kimball and Karen Anderson, Chicago, IL  
Philip and Vickie Anderson, Thornton, CO  
Wayne and Cindy Anthofer, Denver, CO  
Kevin Appareti, Methuen, MA:
- In memory of Norman E. Moline**  
Barbara and William Armstrong,  
North Ridgeville, OH  
David M. Armstrong, Loveland, CO  
Virginia Arter, Longmont, CO  
William Askey, Magnolia, TX  
Alden and Stephanie Atkins, Alexandria, VA  
Carola and James Aubuchon,  
Estes Park, CO  
Michael Austin, Windsor, CO  
Scott Awender, Hudson, OH  
Craig and Kris Axtell, Estes Park, CO  
Khalid Aziz and Shuah Khan, Fort Collins, CO  
Bev Bachman, Estes Park, CO  
Karla Bachman, Lincoln, NE  
Judith Ball, Schaumburg, IL  
Doug Balok, Loveland, CO  
William and Pat Barclay, Aledo, TX  
John and Marlene Barnes, Fort Madison, IA  
Stephen Barnett, Dallas, TX  
Robert and Paula Barrick, Morton, IL  
Melinda Bart, Loveland, CO  
David Bartel, Longmont, CO  
Shirley Bastilla, Highland, IL  
Donald Bauman, Wilmington, DE  
Heather Beadle, Boulder, CO  
William and Christine Beadles,  
Colorado Springs, CO  
Caroline Beck, Centennial, CO  
Dale and Peggy Beck, Estes Park, CO  
Judith Beechy, Estes Park, CO  
Phil and Lynn Beedle, Johnstown, CO  
Claire and Richard Beesley, Estes Park, CO  
Doug and Teri Beezley, Snellville, GA  
Martha Bendel, Canon City, CO  
Terry Benjamin, Longmont, CO  
Jeanette and Carl Benson, Dallas, TX  
Laurel and Donald Benson, Loveland, CO  
Loretta Bentel, Lockport, IL:
- In memory of John W. Bentel, Sr.**  
Gary and Elizabeth Bernhard, Austin, TX:
- In memory of Al and Marcia Persons**  
John and Connie Berry, Castle Rock, CO  
Rod Betsch, Castle Rock, CO  
Deb Bialeschki, Estes Park, CO:
- In honor of Karla Henderson**  
Carolyn and Jon Bible, Estes Park, CO  
Debra Bidwell, Fort Collins, CO  
Barb Biedenstein, Centennial, CO  
Carla Biggart, Denver, CO  
Marla and Brian Biggs, Paola, KS:
- In memory of Stella Valentine**  
Kenneth Black, Boulder, CO  
John and Anne Blair, Fort Collins, CO  
John and Emily Blankinship, Loveland, CO  
William Blessing, Leawood, KS:
- In memory of the "Great Summer 2018  
Sierra Club Outing"**  
Steven Block, Golden, CO  
Carl Bloom, Denver, CO:
- In honor of newlyweds  
Samantha and Austin Dyche**  
Mary K. Blue, Longmont, CO  
Timothy C. Boers, Denver, CO  
Robert and Kimberly Boisvert, Edina, MN  
Christina Bonfanti, Boulder, CO:
- In honor of The Girl Illuminati**  
Gerald and Darcy Book, River Falls, WI  
Jeffrey Boring, Estes Park, CO  
Valerie Borthwick, Boulder, CO  
Brenden Bottum, Raleigh, NC:
- In honor of Keith and Val Bottum**  
Greg and Tracy Bower, Boulder, CO  
Sigrid Bower, Ann Arbor, MI  
Victoria Bradbury, Golden, CO  
William and Louise Bradley, Boulder, CO  
Jason and Noelle Breiding, Morrison, CO  
Denise and Mark Bretting, Loveland, CO  
Paul Brock, Lookout Mountain, TN  
David and Jennifer Bronder, Iowa City, IA  
Nancy Brostuen, Littleton, CO  
Scot Brown, Aurora, CO:
- In memory of Betty Brown**  
Joanne Brown, Madison, WI:
- In honor of Rebecca Brown**  
Horace and Sue Brown, Boerne, TX  
Jesse and Linda Brown, Arvada, CO  
Judson Brown, Fort Collins, CO  
Mary Bruell, Varna, IL  
Kenneth and Susan Brunk, Centennial, CO  
Anne Bryant, Dallas, TX  
Donald and Kathy Bryson, Estes Park, CO  
Samantha Buck, Denver, CO  
R. Russ and Ann Buckley, Erie, CO  
Diane Buell, Denver, CO  
Doris Burd, Denver, CO  
William Burgess, Herndon, VA  
Timothy Burke, Estes Park, CO  
Terry and Donna Buswell, Greeley, CO  
Marie Caldwell, Boulder, CO  
Rebecca and Thomas Caldwell,  
Estes Park, CO  
Lois Calvert, Denver, CO  
Douglas and Patricia Campbell, Greeley, CO  
Karen Campbell, Greenwood, IN  
Tyler and Debby Campbell,  
Chestertown, MD  
Robert and Patricia Canfield, Leawood, KS  
R. Laurent and Betsy Cannon,  
Englewood, CO  
John Capelle, West Bend, WI  
Gerald and Elizabeth Caplan, Boulder, CO  
Judy Capra, Wheat Ridge, CO  
George and Beth Carle, Estes Park, CO  
Liz and Dwight Carmichael,  
Lees Summit, MO  
Paula Carole, Colorado Springs, CO  
Peggy Carr, Denton, TX  
Nancy Carroum, Highlands Ranch, CO  
Galen and Sherri Carter, Longmont, CO  
Joan Carter, Fort Collins, CO  
Sue Cass, Longmont, CO  
Kathleen and Joseph Catanese,  
Carol Stream, IL  
Kimberly Cavanagh, Broomfield, CO  
Bertha Cerda, Santa Ana, CA  
Elizabeth Chamberlin, Indianapolis, IN  
Chapman Hanson Foundation,  
Agoura Hills, CA  
Charities Aid Foundation of America/  
Kurt Knutson, Princeton, NJ  
Robert Checkley and Susan Kummer,  
High Ridge, MO  
Kathi Child, Dallas, TX  
Tom and Jean Christen, Fort Collins, CO  
John Christensen, Highlands Ranch, CO  
Aaron Clark, Longmont, CO  
Kay and David Clewell, Edmond, OK  
Mary Susan Coble, Colorado Springs, CO  
Jack Cochran, Denver, CO  
Charles and Olga Cofas, Estes Park, CO  
Dennis and Betty Coit, Centennial, CO  
Heather Collins, Wheaton, IL  
Colorado Gives: Community First Founda-  
tion/Elizabeth Schoeberlein, Arvada, CO  
Colorado Gives: Community First Founda-  
tion/Ellen VanDyk, Arvada, CO  
Colorado Gives: Community First  
Foundation/William Paschal, Arvada, CO  
Community Foundation of Greater  
Des Moines/Tim and Wendy Haight,  
Des Moines, IA  
Community Foundation of Northern  
Colorado/David and Carol Anderson  
Family Fund, Fort Collins, CO  
Larry S. and Lynda Conley, Fort Worth, TX  
Nancy and Todd Conley, Estes Park, CO  
Robert and Linda Connelly,  
Lee's Summit, MO  
ConocoPhillips, Houston, TX  
Jennifer Conrad, Golden, CO:
- In memory of Ricard Trzcinski**  
Ted and Lynn Coons, Columbus, OH  
John and Dona Cooper, Estes Park, CO  
Arlene and Barry Corey, Tucson, AZ:
- In honor of Estee Murdock**  
Victoria W. Cote, Tucson, AZ:
- In honor of Arlene Orlicky Corey**  
David and Debbie Courtney, Chickasha, OK  
Hope and Tom Covey, Morgantown, WV  
Matthew Cox, Davenport, IA:
- In honor of Walt Cox**  
Gloria Cox, Denton, TX  
Kim Cran, Meridian, ID  
Bobby Craton, Woodstock, GA  
Amy and Kevin Crossland, Denver, CO  
Gavin Culbertson, Denver, CO  
Jackie and Colbert Cushing, Estes Park, CO  
Karen and Bradley Czebotar, McFarland, WI  
Dolores D'Agosto, Omaha, NE  
David Dalke and Sheryl Ankerstar,  
Fort Collins, CO  
Christopher and Patricia Daly,  
Bryn Mawr, PA  
Thomas Daly and Margaret Fitzgibbons,  
Boulder, CO  
Lee and Margaret Dameron, Iowa City, IA  
Merle Daniels/Moorely Tees, Golden, CO  
Leigh Darbee, Indianapolis, IN  
Rhonda and Scott Davie, Boulder, CO  
Brian Davis, Westminster, CO  
Mary and Bruce Davis, Thornton, CO  
Susie Davis and Chuck Bartholomew,  
Englewood, CO  
Peter and Joan Dawson, Boulder, CO  
Caroline de Dreu, Cincinnati, OH  
Catie Deines, Aurora, CO  
Delaware County Foundation/Catherine  
A. Heberding, Lewis Center, OH  
Mari Deminski, Colorado Springs, CO  
Lynn and Tim Dennis, Saint Paul, MN  
David and Laura Denton, Louisville, CO  
Csilla DePue, Salida, CO:
- In honor of Raymond Samoska**  
Patrick and Janet Desmond, Saint Marys, GA  
Tom and Marguerite Detmer, Denver, CO  
Natalie Dilts, Colorado Springs, CO  
Prudence Dings, Boulder, CO  
Melanie Disbrow, Castle Rock, CO  
William and Sharon Dodd, Broomfield, CO  
Ann Donoghue and Steve Radecki,  
Fort Collins, CO  
Donabeth Downey, Estes Park, CO  
Kathleen Doyle, Golden, CO  
Delyn Drake, Boulder, CO  
Debra Drenth, Parker, CO  
Michael and Liam Driver, Denver, CO:
- In honor of Graham Johnson**  
Jane Drost, Longmont, CO

## BEST USE

- Nancy Abbott, Kremmling, CO  
Richard and Sarah Abbott, Broomfield, CO  
Richard and Christy Acheson, Windsor, CO  
Joe and Mary Liz Adair, Estes Park, CO  
Dale Agger, Fort Collins, CO  
Salvadore Aguirre, Aurora, CO  
Adele Ahnstedt, Fort Collins, CO  
Teresa and Steven Ahrenholz, Cincinnati, OH  
Barbara Ahrens and Raymond Hauschel,  
Grand Lake, CO  
Robert Akins, Fort Collins, CO  
Elvira Aletta, Williamsville, NY

- Douglas Dubus, Parker, CO  
Jason and Sunshine Duex, Denver, CO  
Karen Duncan, Jersey City, NJ:  
**In memory of Donna J. Scheeter**  
Kendra and Steve Dunn, Broomfield, CO  
Robert and Jane Dunphy, Arlington, VA  
Amie and Benji Durden, Boulder, CO  
Donna Dye, Muncie, IN  
Phyllis Easley, Loveland, CO  
Gregory and Kendra Eastvedt,  
Longmont, CO  
William and Cynthia Eaton, Palm City, FL  
William and Mary Eberle, Boulder, CO  
Richard and Michelle Eckert,  
Woodland Park, CO  
Meryl and Stephen Eddy,  
Chesapeake City, MD  
Olivia Edwards, Louisville, CO  
William and Gretchen Edwards, Denver, CO  
Dale and Melinda Egeberg, Verona, WI  
David Ehrman, Longmont, CO  
Bart and Judy Eisfelder, Fairway, KS  
James and Elizabeth Eliassen, Denver, CO  
Dan and Lucy Ellerhorst, Littleton, CO  
Josephine Elliot, Clinton, CT:  
**In memory of Lucy R. Elliot**  
Jack and Grace Elliott, Santa Clarita, CA:  
In memory of Barri Boren  
L.W. and Teresa Ellis, Fort Worth, TX  
Janis Emanuel, Englewood, CO  
Laura Endicott, Edmond, OK  
Catherine and Pedro Engel, Fort Collins, CO  
Deborah Engel, Lees Summit, MO  
Carolyn Ennis, Dallas, TX:  
**In memory of Rob Ennis**  
Richard and Wanda Ernst, Fort Collins, CO  
Matthew Eubanks, Louisville, CO  
Martha Evans, Boulder, CO:  
**In honor of Donna Lyons**  
Jay and Debra Evers, Loveland, CO  
Mary Faini, Longmont, CO  
Gary and Kathleen Falk, Boise, ID  
Susan Fallander, Lakewood, CO  
Tom Farber, Aurora, CO  
Robert and Mary Farmer, Athens, TX  
Polly Feis, Lincoln, NE  
Catherine and Jerry Felknor, Boulder, CO  
Ellen and Jorge Fernandez, Loveland, CO  
Fidelity Charitable/Amy Derbyshire and  
George Carr, Cincinnati, OH  
Fidelity Charitable/Bob and  
Susie Ladenburger, Cincinnati, OH  
Fidelity Charitable/DeMers Coker Family  
Fund, Cincinnati, OH  
Fidelity Charitable/Getchell Family Fund,  
Cincinnati, OH  
Fidelity Charitable/Greg Sharkey,  
Cincinnati, OH  
Fidelity Charitable/Henry Rasof,  
Cincinnati, OH:  
**In memory of Beatrice Leplin Rasof  
and Harry Leplin**  
Fidelity Charitable/Jim Cousar and  
Donna Squyres, Cincinnati, OH  
Fidelity Charitable/John and Suzie Cruse,  
Cincinnati, OH  
Fidelity Charitable/Mark and Janette  
Morgan, Cincinnati, OH  
Fidelity Charitable/Mark and Katherine  
Young, Cincinnati, OH  
Fidelity Charitable/Maurice Warner,  
Cincinnati, OH  
Fidelity Charitable/Nancy & Connor  
Morris Family Fund, Cincinnati, OH  
Fidelity Charitable/Robert and  
Pamela Guthrie, Cincinnati, OH  
Fidelity Charitable/Sanborn Charitable  
Gift Fund, Cincinnati, OH  
Ann Fields, Austin, TX:  
**In memory of Andrea Peck**  
James and Gwyn Fields, Silver Spring, MD
- Melinda Finley, Edmond, OK  
April Floerke, Florissant, MO:  
**In memory of Charles "Bud" Floerke**  
Richard J. Flynn, Boulder, CO  
Kathy Follett, Port Arthur, TX  
Ann J. Folz, Dallas, TX  
Simon Foot, Arvada, CO  
Lowell and Jane Fortune, Littleton, CO  
Kenneth Foster and Nancy Kappler-  
Foster, Poughkeepsie, NY  
Stan and Carol Foster, Estes Park, CO  
Marilyn and Stephen Fox, Longmont, CO  
Patricia Fox and John Shearer,  
Johnstown, CO  
O. Lehn and Johannah Franke, Boulder, CO  
Perry Franklin, Springfield, MO:  
**In memory of Glenn Franklin**  
Stephen and Mary Franquemont,  
Evergreen, CO  
Barbara Free and Jay Johnson,  
Albuquerque, NM  
Marion Freeman, Houston, TX  
Geoffrey Friefeld, Boulder, CO:  
**In memory of Dave**  
Robert Fritz, Charlottesville, VA  
Lou Celia and Don Frost, San Antonio, TX  
Howard and Dana Fry, Castle Rock, CO:  
**In honor of Barbara and Howard Fry**  
Julia Fuller, Belle Mead, NJ  
Doug Furst, Berthoud, CO  
Tom and Susan Gapter Dority, Estes Park, CO  
John Garay, Brooklyn, NY  
Mary and John Gardner, Lakewood, CO  
Michael Garmon and Bridget Stauring,  
Divide, CO  
Elizabeth Garner, Colorado Springs, CO  
M.R. Gaspar, Monument, CO  
Robert and Jocelyn Gebhardt,  
Broomfield, CO  
John and Carolann Gerhard, Loveland, CO  
Kathryn Gibson, Denver, CO  
Miriam Gilbert, Boulder, CO  
Marykay Gillam, West Des Moines, IA  
Tammra Gilliland, Peyton, CO  
William and Linda Ginsberg, Parker, CO  
Gary and Donna Gisle, Boulder, CO  
Robin Glendenning Cutright, Aurora, CO:  
**In memory of Wilma Glendenning  
and Kevin Glendenning**  
Linda Goff, Estes Park, CO:  
**In honor of Kerry Morimoto's birthday**  
Janet Truman Gold, Denver, CO  
Margaret Clark Golden, Brooklyn, NY  
Susan Goldman, Fort Collins, CO  
Lee Katherine Goldstein, Golden, CO  
Kari Gomez-Smith, Loveland, CO  
Norma Gonzalez, Centennial, CO  
Daniel Goscombe, Nashville, TN  
Marcia and Alex Grande III, Souderton, PA  
Katharine Grant, Denver, CO:  
**In honor of Liza Grant**  
Elizabeth Grant, Denver, CO  
Gertrude Grant, Denver, CO  
Grant Family Fund, Georgetown, TX:  
**In honor of Grant Family Fund  
Board Member Melody Grant**  
Stanley Gray, Urbana, IL  
Deborah and John Green, Drake, CO  
Emily and Joel Green, Denver, CO  
Joseph and Melody Greenberg,  
Fort Collins, CO  
Sarah Greenleaf, Lafayette, CO  
Susan Greenquist, Louisville, CO  
Colleen Greer and Deb Peterson,  
Bemidji, MN  
Kerri and Mark Greier, Colorado Springs, CO  
Duane and Beatrice Griego, Arvada, CO  
Charles and Linda Griffin, Estes Park, CO  
Nancy Grimes and Twig Ertl, Boulder, CO
- Nancy Groves, Lawrenceville, GA:  
**In memory of Lyle Mueller**  
Donald Groves, Glen Haven, CO:  
**In memory of Patricia Groves**  
Peter Guadagni, Walnut Creek, CA:  
**In honor of Jim and Cathy Guadagni**  
Robert and Mary Ann Gudmundson,  
Wheaton, IL  
Cindy Gulisano, Torrington, WY:  
**In memory of Robb Conrad**  
Cheryl Gummere, Grand Junction, CO  
Suzanne Gunn, Denver, CO  
Robert and Trish Guse, El Dorado, KS  
Nicolle Gusz, Hudson, OH  
Margaret and Steven Guthrie,  
Estes Park, CO:  
**In memory of George Guthrie**  
Alice and Tom Guthrie, Loveland, CO  
Gary and Cathy Gutjahr, Saint Louis, MO  
Harold and Ilene Gutjahr, Denver, CO  
Kara Hafez, Edgewater, CO  
Collin and Natalie Hahn, Houston, TX  
Heather Hahn, Takoma Park, MD  
Sonja Hahn, Arvada, CO  
Hallidie and Donald Haid, Seattle, WA  
Robert and Donna Halcomb, Longmont, CO  
Michelle and Gregory Hall, Vail, CO  
Richard Hallisey, Longmont, CO:  
**In memory of Louise Hallisey**  
Lynn and Norma Hammond, Loveland, CO  
Pat Hammond and Gail Albers,  
Estes Park, CO  
John and Jan Hana, Garner, IA  
Marjorie Hancock, Rochelle, IL  
Carol and Dave Handshue, Fort Collins, CO  
David and Regina Haner, Loveland, CO  
Larry and Shirley Hannert, Phoenix, AZ  
Nicholas and Patricia Hanson,  
Grand Rapids, MI  
John and Felice Harlow, Longmont, CO  
Brian Harms and Amy Schlotthauer,  
Boulder, CO  
Franklin Harold, Seattle, WA  
Julie and Martin Harrington, Denver, CO:  
**In honor of Judge & Mrs. Tom Stag**  
Cathy and John Harrington, Madison, WI  
Julie and Martin Harrington, Denver, CO  
Donald and Joann Harris, Greeley, CO:  
**In honor of Ras and Marian Erdal**  
Donald and Joann Harris, Greeley, CO  
Susan K. Harris, Estes Park, CO  
Victoria Harris, Elizabeth, CO  
Darby Hartman, Estes Park, CO  
Anne and James Harvey, Lenexa, KS:  
**In memory of Maggie Luck**  
Eric Haugdahl, Tallahassee, FL  
Robert and Colleen Haven, Louisville, CO  
Mary Jo Havlicek, Omaha, NE  
Peggy and William Haynes, Monument, CO  
Dennis and Katherine Head, Denver, CO  
Nina and Cray Healy, Fraser, CO  
Ellen Heath and Diane Blaser,  
Fort Collins, CO  
Nita Heath, Broomfield, CO  
Ann and Walter Hecox, Colorado Springs, CO  
Kathleen and Louis Hegeman, La Grange, IL  
James and Diane Hein, Estes Park, CO:  
**In memory of Darwin R. Spearing**  
Gerald and Ann Heinz, East Dundee, IL  
Roberta Heisterkamp, Denver, CO  
Gary Helfeldt, USAF Academy, CO  
Karla Henderson, Estes Park, CO  
Mary and John Henry, Castle Rock, CO  
Zelek and Jane Herman, Palo Alto, CA:  
**In memory of Ted and Suzanne Tepper**  
Kadi Herring, Longmont, CO  
Marilyn Herrmann, Estes Park, CO  
Julia Hershey, Colorado Springs, CO
- David Hewitt, Castle Rock, CO  
James and Marjorie Hewitt, Lincoln, NE  
Barry and Patricia Hiatt, Littleton, CO  
Kelsey Hickok, Boulder, CO  
Kelly Hiltner, Leawood, KS  
Brad Lee Hines, Littleton, CO  
Thomas and Regina Hisey, Estes Park, CO  
Eugene and Wilma Hoath, South Bend, IN  
Richard and Katherine  
Hoenigman, Berea, OH  
Karen Hoewing, Medford, OR:  
**In honor of Jackie Sullivan**  
Richard E. Hoffman, M.D., Denver, CO  
Sarah Holste, Norcross, GA:  
**In honor of Linda Holste**  
Victoria Holzhauser and Charles Price,  
Longmont, CO  
Mike and Mary Homiack, Broomfield, CO  
Stanley Honda and Ann Levin, New York, NY  
Jana and Dale Honermann,  
Highlands Ranch, CO  
John and Karen Hopkins, Lebanon, MO  
Janet and David Horn, Loveland, CO  
Robert Horner, Dublin, OH  
Harlan Horst, Fort Collins, CO  
Sheryl Horvath, Beloit, WI  
Susan Horvath, Lansing, MI  
Robert and Ellen Hostetler, Monument, CO  
Patricia Houlihan, Flossmoor, IL  
Jean Howell, Belvidere, IL  
Donald and Rietta Huddle, Houston, TX  
Debby Hughes and Leo Weber,  
Estes Park, CO  
Dale Hunt, Estes Park, CO  
David Huntley, LaSalle, CO  
Ned and Patricia Husman, Centennial, CO  
Douglas and Diane Hutchinson, Aurora, CO  
Daniel and Mary Hymans, Loveland, CO  
Laird and Carol Ingham, Hollywood Park, TX  
Karen Inman, Denver, CO  
Carmen E. Irizarry, Elburn, IL  
Donald Irwin, Yucca Valley, CA:  
**In honor of Marilyn Irwin**  
James and Keenan Izzo, McKinney, TX  
Judy and Dan Jacks, Fort Collins, CO  
Karen Jacques, Lakewood, CO  
Patricia Jameson, Denver, CO  
Alan Jarusewski, Castle Rock, CO  
Jeffrey and Eileen Jasica, Broomfield, CO  
Peter Jaumann, Erie, CO  
Jean and Walter Jazun, Parker, CO  
Mary Jennings, Topeka, KS:  
**In honor of Butch Stockover**  
David and Kim Jennings, Cedar Rapids, IA  
Christopher Jobe, Stillwater, OK  
David Jobusch, Windsor, CO  
Darlene Johannsen, Fort Collins, CO  
Andrea Johnson, Columbus, OH  
Bruce and Kyong Johnson, Boulder, CO  
John and Cynthia Johnson, Alexandria, VA  
Kay Johnson, Evergreen, CO  
Pamela Johnson, Westminster, CO  
Richard K. Johnson, Kenosha, WI  
Steven and Annette Joliat, Kingston, TN  
Julie Jones, Estes Park, CO:  
**In memory of A. Durand Jones**  
Sharon Jones, Pearland, TX:  
**In honor of Neil Jones,  
Michell Jones-Pauley and Natalie Kee**  
J.R. and Nancy Jones, Neosho, WI  
Jean Ann Jones, Holmes Beach, FL  
Carolyn Jones, Larkspur, CO  
David Joseph and Diane Green, Boulder, CO  
Joseph and Susan Pichler Fund of The  
Greater Cincinnati Foundation,  
Cincinnati, OH  
William and Dorothy Julian, Loveland, CO  
Gary and Pam Jurgemeyer, Fairplay, CO



- Denise Jurgens and Kevin Messerschmidt, Carbondale, CO  
Ingrid Justin, Timnath, CO  
Kerri Kachel, Whitewater, WI  
Charles Kahle, Sun Valley, ID:  
**In honor of Sean Aikin**  
Terry and Paul Kane, Fayetteville, PA  
Stephen and Jeanne Kaplan, Denver, CO  
George Kasunich, Estes Park, CO  
Deborah Keating, Kansas City, MO:  
**In memory of Frances Keating**  
Rebecca Keating, Clinton, CT  
Mary Kechely, Omaha, NE  
Kristen Kennedy, Foxboro, MA:  
**In memory of Michael A. Bembenek**  
Charles and Mary Jane Kettlewell, Fraser, CO  
Tony Khorouzan, Golden, CO  
David and Sandy Kielsmeier, Arvada, CO  
Kind Coffee, Estes Park, CO  
Zeb King, Rutherfordton, NC:  
**In honor of Russell Porter**  
Clarissa and Paul King, Boulder, CO  
Miller R. and Billie King, Waco, TX  
Steven King, Saint Louis, MO  
Hugh Kingery, Franktown, CO  
Dick and Mary Lou Kinney, Boise, ID  
Mary and Bruce Kinsch, Pendleton, OR:  
**In honor of Stephen Kinsch and Alicia Rivera**  
Virginia and Ray Kinzer, Houston, TX  
Maureen and Bruce Kiphart, Arvada, CO  
Clifton and Diane Kirkpatrick, Louisville, KY:  
**In honor of David and Amara Kirkpatrick**  
Clifton and Diane Kirkpatrick, Louisville, KY:  
**In honor of Kathrine Brucken**  
Clifton and Diane Kirkpatrick, Louisville, KY:  
**In honor of Elizabeth Kirkpatrick and Caroline Brucken**  
Jacqueline Kitchen, West Branch, IA  
Christie Kline, Littleton, CO  
Tonya and Curtis Knudsen, Parker, CO  
Deborah Knutson, Fraser, CO  
Richard and Lucinda Koester, Lawrence, KS  
Ronald Kohner, Peoria, AZ  
John and Louise Koss, Fort Collins, CO  
Mike and Mary Kottke, Fountain Hills, AZ  
Penny Kragie, Loveland, CO  
Ron and Linda Krein, Estes Park, CO  
Joseph Krol, Joliet, IL  
John and Marlene Krueger, Estes Park, CO  
James Kubichek, Red Feather Lakes, CO  
Sherrilyn Kuehn, Morgantown, WV:  
**In honor of Donna Cole**  
Mary Ann Kundtz, Estes Park, CO  
Thomas and Kathleen Kurtz, Colorado Springs, CO  
JoAnne Lafley, Estes Park, CO  
Karen Laine, Lakewood, CO  
Donald and Gail Lambert, Arvada, CO  
Jennifer Lambrecht, Wheat Ridge, CO:  
**In honor of Knoll Clients**  
Jacqueline Landahl, Prairie Village, KS  
David and Susan Landers, Estes Park, CO  
Sheree Landwehr, Wheat Ridge, CO  
Frank Langan, Boulder, CO  
Wayne and Jane Larsen, Loveland, CO  
Ann Larson, Snowmass Village, CO  
Robert Larson, Fort Collins, CO  
Lynn and Linda Latham, Loveland, CO:  
**In memory of Bill Latham**  
Dana Latham, Okemos, MI  
Elaine and Bob Lawrence, Fort Collins, CO  
Larry and Teresa Lay, Austin, TX  
Jack Leary, Falls Church, VA  
Kenneth Leary, American Canyon, CA  
Joseph Lebel, Cornwallville, NY  
Michael Lebsack, Thornton, CO  
Karen LeCuyer, Lafayette, CO  
Joseph M. Lee, Saint Louis, MO  
Paul and Georgina Lee, Westminster, CO  
Ron and Chris Lee, Placida, FL  
Ulla and Mani Lee, Loveland, CO  
Mark Lehrner, Centennial, CO  
Wesley and Heather LeMasurier, Boulder, CO  
JD Leonard, Westminster, CO  
Thomas and Jane Leshinsky, Greenwood Village, CO  
Eric and Audrey Lester, Saint Joseph, MI  
Karen and Jerry Levi, Colorado Springs, CO  
Charles and Katherine Levine, Estes Park, CO  
Howard and Toni Levine, Wayne, IL  
James and Peggy Lewis, Apache Junction, AZ  
Gloria Lickfett, Estes Park, CO:  
**In memory of Donald Lickfett**  
Jason and Linda Lillegraven, Laramie, WY  
Erica Lim, Centennial, CO  
Lincoln Community Foundation/Ray and Carolyn Zeisset, Lincoln, NE  
Carol Linnig, Estes Park, CO  
Mark and Kathleen Little, Arvada, CO  
Mary Loberg, Plymouth, MN  
Georgia and John Locker, Fort Collins, CO  
Katherine and John Long, Estes Park, CO  
Kent and Pamela Long, Aurora, CO  
Los Alamos National Security, LLC/Christopher Stull, Andover, MA  
Karen Louis, Boulder, CO  
Jim and Barbara Louk, Lutz, FL  
Lale Lovell, Longmont, CO  
James Lovett and Mary Ann Wilner, Boulder, CO  
Diane Lunde, Racine, WI  
Robert Luzzi and Lisa Pisano, Broomfield, CO  
Fred F. Lyle, Jr., San Antonio, TX  
Lynne Paxton Real Estate, Beverly Hills, CA:  
**In memory of Zorro**  
Kenneth and Candace Lyon, Centennial, CO  
Wendy Mack, Woodland Park, CO  
Marion Maddocks, Council Bluffs, IA:  
**In memory of Deane Maddocks**  
Madelyn Madsen, Batavia, IL:  
**In memory of Robert and Kathryn Haines**  
Carol Mahoney, Fort Collins, CO  
William Mahoney, Louisville, CO  
Julianna Makos, Glen Mills, PA:  
**In memory of Byron Wheeler**  
Griff and Vickie Malleck, McCook, NE  
Pat and Cliff Malone, Loveland, CO  
Rala Mandelson, Estes Park, CO  
Judith Christy and Robert Mann, Fort Collins, CO  
Karishma Manzur, Arlington, MA  
Mares & Armstrong, LLC, Loveland, CO  
Sue Ellen Markey and James Boyd, Fort Collins, CO  
Mary Marquardt, Julesburg, CO  
Kenneth and Louise Martin, Houston, TX  
Ann and Paul Martinson, Hudson, WI  
Carol and Harry Martz, Los Alamos, NM  
Michael Marilyn Maskell-Pretz, Fort Collins, CO  
James and Beth Mason, Longmont, CO  
Stefanie Mathew, Rockville, MD  
Lynn Matson, Loveland, CO  
Frances and Albert Matteucci, Stockton, CA  
Judy Matthews, Fort Collins, CO  
Michael and Jeri Lou Maus, Arvada, CO  
Martha Maxwell, Boulder, CO  
James and Janet Maynard, Hershey, PA  
Tracy Mayo, Boulder, CO  
Kim and Claude Mays, Carol Stream, IL  
Virginia McAfee, Boulder, CO  
Catherine McCallum, Fort Collins, CO  
Douglas McCallum and Diana Neff, Longmont, CO  
Barbara McCornack, Fort Collins, CO  
Margaret L. McCranie, Irvine, CA  
Mr. and Mrs. Dale McCutcheon, Plano, TX  
Marvin McDaniel, Sedalia, CO  
Phoebe McDavid, Pflugerville, TX:  
**In honor of Mark Wilson**  
Barbara McDonnell, Aurora, CO  
Regina McGuire, Springfield, IL  
Clyde and Fran McKinney, Quitman, TX  
Raymond McMahan, Omaha, NE:  
**In memory of Margaret McMahon**  
Ronnie and Charla McManus, Hurst, TX:  
**In memory of Madeline Framson**  
Nancy and Stewart McNab, Tabernash, CO  
Carla and Monte Mead, Wheat Ridge, CO  
Kyle Mealey, Hermosa Beach, CA  
Donna Meckley, Boulder, CO:  
**In memory of Richard C. Meckley**  
Robert and Kathleen Megginson, Ann Arbor, MI:  
**In memory of Ferrel Atkins**  
Paula and Frank Megorden, Colorado Springs, CO  
Margaret Meister, Estes Park, CO  
Lisa Meltzer, Denver, CO  
Virginia Merrill, Mission Hills, KS  
Marilyn and Donald Mestnik, Centennial, CO:  
**In memory of Dorothy Heyliger**  
Cassandra Meyer, Ann Arbor, MI:  
**In honor of Fred Gill**  
Berl Meyer, Louisville, KY  
Hope Meyer, Boulder, CO  
Morgan Meyer, Estes Park, CO  
Benjamin Miceli, Loveland, CO  
Scott Mikulak, Fort Collins, CO  
Alan and Suzanne Miller, Estes Park, CO  
Colleen Miller, Cheyenne, WY  
Dana and Janet Miller, Greeley, CO  
Doug and Maureen Miller, Niwot, CO  
Liz Miller and Lindy Eakin, Lawrence, KS  
Mary and Charles Miller, Landenberg, PA  
Mary E. Miller, Overland Park, KS  
Rich and Carolyn Miller, Breckenridge, CO  
Roland and Carol Miller, Houston, TX  
Larry Mills, Florissant, MO  
Steven and Linda Mills, Batesville, IN  
Dann Milne, Denver, CO  
David and Joy Mohr, Estes Park, CO  
Julie Montgomery, Littleton, CO  
Chris Moore, Denver, CO  
Fred Moore, Boulder, CO  
Marilyn Moore, West Palm Beach, FL  
George and Hildegarde Morgan, Fort Collins, CO  
Rebecca and Jack Morgan, St. Petersburg, FL  
Kerry Morimoto, Denver, CO  
**In honor of Linda Goff's Birthday**  
William and Rosemary Morris, Thornton, CO  
Teresa and Otis Morrow, Arkansas City, KS  
Maxwell and Jeanne Morse, Lakewood, CO  
Samuel and Vicki Mossman, Evans, CO  
Patti and Bob Mueller, Loveland, CO  
Pat and Catherine Mulligan, Boulder, CO  
Eric and Tanya Mullins, Blue Ash, OH  
Juanita Muntz, Tualatin, OR:  
**In memory of Geoff Muntz**  
Leila Murphy, Centennial, CO  
Marilyn Murphy and Robert Medlock, Fort Collins, CO  
Nancy Murphy, Golden, CO  
Martha Mustard, Golden, CO  
Kathryn Mutz, Boulder, CO  
Valerie and David Myers, Littleton, CO  
James and Jeanne Mytton, Broomfield, CO  
Ted and Kathy Nace, The Villages, FL  
Naktenis Family Foundation/Pete and Christine Naktenis, Niantic, CT  
Ray R. Nassimbene, Denver, CO  
Carol and Paull Nation, Denver, CO  
Raymon Navarrete Villeda, Commerce City, CO  
Betty Neale, Estes Park, CO  
John and Janet Nelson, Longmont, CO  
Neptune and Company Inc., Lakewood, CO  
Network for Good, Washington, DC  
Network for Good/Anonymous, Washington, DC  
Network for Good/Blair Roy, Washington, DC  
Network for Good/Carolyn Hilliard, Washington, DC:  
**In memory of Michael Allen Hilliard**  
Network for Good/Debbie Hilliard, Washington, DC:  
**In memory of Michael Allen Hilliard**  
Network for Good/Demone Hattaway, Washington, DC  
Network for Good/George Kiladis, Washington, DC  
Network for Good/Leslie Swygert, Washington, DC  
Network for Good/Mary Eisenbeis, Washington, DC  
Barbara and Thomas Nichol, Estes Park, CO  
Jess and Harriet Nielsen, North Platte, NE  
Lori Nielsen, Blair, NE  
Lynne Niemeyer, Berthoud, CO  
Tom and Karin Nilsson, Omaha, NE  
Linda Nolan, Loveland, CO  
Macario Olea and Alicia Rosales, Colorado Springs, CO  
Laurie Oliver, Estes Park, CO:  
**In memory of Kurt Oliver**  
Christine Olsem, Luxemburg, IA  
Dayton and Rosina Olson, Estes Park, CO  
Joseph and Julie Ontiveros, Littleton, CO  
Orange Tree Productions, Newbury Park, CA  
Edmund Orsini, Jr. and Christine Robinson, Littleton, CO  
Stacy Oshinski, Ponce Inlet, FL:  
**In memory of Julie Gwynn**  
Albert and Dorothy Ossinger, Lakewood, CO:  
**In memory of Jim Detterline**  
Sylvia and Dan Ostos, Kerrville, TX  
Betty and Frank Ottesen, Greeley, CO  
Pacific Western Technologies, LTD/Paul Poston, Wheat Ridge, CO  
John Palazzo, Denver, CO  
Russell and Barb Panneton, Nederland, CO  
Ricky and Vicki Papineau, Estes Park, CO  
Jeanne Paradeis, Denver, CO  
Wayne and Sally Park, Estes Park, CO  
Rudy and Hassie Parzl, Glendora, CA  
Paul Passmore, Boulder, CO  
Kyle Patterson and Tim Phillips, Estes Park, CO  
Bill and Lisa Payden, Estes Park, CO  
David Peak, Littleton, CO  
Susan and Bill Pedrick, Erie, CO  
Winston Peeler, Platte City, MO  
Gary and Susan Perkins, Granby, CO  
Sondra Perry, Grand Prairie, TX:  
**In memory of Jim Perry**  
Robert and Berniece Peters, Estes Park, CO  
Jim and Betsy Petersen, Metairie, LA  
Karen Peterson, Saint Paul, MN  
Joanne and Robert Peterson-Falcone, Colorado Springs, CO  
Jim Petri and Chris Owens, Longmont, CO  
Dennis and Candi Phillips, Merriam, KS:  
**In memory of Jim and Diane Ayres**  
James and Pat Pickering, Estes Park, CO  
Shirley J. Pine, Little Rock, AR  
Amy and Todd Plummer, Estes Park, CO  
Dmitri Pogorelov, Littleton, CO  
Jules and Margaret Porsche, Aurora, CO

Ellen and Douglas Porter, Lakewood, CO  
Maartje Maas Potterton, Buena Vista, CO  
Joel and Linda Pohn, Lakewood, CO  
Paul and Deborah Price, Loveland, CO  
Hugh and Lillis Price, Fort Collins, CO  
Joe and Marcia Pugh, Loveland, CO  
Susan L. Putnam, Aurora, CO  
Bianca Rachal, Aurora, CO  
Fred Rainguet, Allenspark, CO  
Jerry and Ann Raisch, Boulder, CO  
Luitgard Ramsey, Westminster, CO  
Glenn Randall, Boulder, CO  
Edward and Georgia Randinitis, Plymouth, MI

Eugene Rardin, Overland Park, KS:

**In memory of Juanita Rardin**

Duncan and Sherry Rarity, Estes Park, CO  
Sandra Rasmussen, Fort Collins, CO:

**In honor of Rick Priese**

Bonnie Ravesloot, Saint John, IN  
Sheila Ray and Leon Mason, Boulder, CO  
Virginia Ann Reavill, Idaho Falls, ID:

**In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Taylor**

Carol and John Redd, Katy, TX  
Gene and Polly Reetz, Denver, CO  
Jennifer Reich, Denver, CO  
Katherine Reid and Gary Eastman, Fort Collins, CO  
Frank and Nancy Reilly, Phillipsburg, NJ  
Phillip and Margaret Reinaas, San Antonio, TX  
Steven Reinmund, The Woodlands, TX  
Richard Remington, Arvada, CO  
Renaissance Charitable Foundation Inc./ Wells Fargo Philanthropy Fund, Indianapolis, IN

Robert M. Renwick, Cave Creek, AZ  
Laurenda Reynolds, Greeley, CO  
Robert Rich, Denver, CO  
Lynn Richards, Hudson, CO  
Matthew Richins, Fort Collins, CO  
Robert and Donna Ricklefs, Olathe, KS  
Michael and Jane Riegel, Highlands Ranch, CO

William Riley and Norma Riley, Omaha, NE  
John Riola and Ellen Hauge, Sugar Land, TX  
Diane Ritz, Highlands Ranch, CO  
Joan and Terry Roberson, West Des Moines, IA

Andrew Robinson, Colorado Springs, CO  
Franklin Rogers, Belleville, IL  
Chris and Elizabeth Rollinson, Erie, CO  
Robert and Lee Roper, Denver, CO  
Larry and Twila Rosenow, Grinnell, IA  
David and Bettie Rosenson, Lakewood, CO  
Erin Ross, Los Angeles, CA  
Judy Ross and James Carr, Estes Park, CO  
Donna Calef Rosser, Estes Park, CO  
Kenneth Rossman, Denver, CO  
Merlin Roth, Quincy, IL  
Leonard and Mary Rothfeld, Lakewood, CO  
Lyn Rouchell, Metairie, LA:

**In memory of Richard Barberot, Jr.**

Marvin and Marilyn Rowan, College Springs, IA  
Byron Ruff, Colorado Springs, CO  
Josef Ruhl, Arvada, CO  
Henry and Laurine Russell, Lees Summit, MO  
Keith Rutledge, Tolleson, AZ:

**In honor of Ted and Sue Turner**

Patricia Sablatura, Denver, CO  
John and Rebecca Saccardi, Broomfield, CO  
Kay J. Saltus, Denver, CO  
Gary and Ginger Sammonds, Loveland, CO  
Richard and Karen Sandberg, Omaha, NE:  
**In honor of their grandkids**  
Robert and Karen Sanders, Houston, TX

Michael Saunders, Niwot, CO  
Will Scarbro, Golden, CO  
Michael and Andrea Schaugency, Loveland, CO  
Gladys Scheid, Cheyenne, WY:

**In memory of Karen Scheid**

Neil and Judie Schmachtenberger, Gowen, MI  
Constance Schmidt, Estes Park, CO  
Keith and Marilyn Schmitt, Longmont, CO  
Ilene Schroeder, Atlanta, GA  
Jane and Ken Schroll, Highlands Ranch, CO  
Susan and Robert Schubert, San Jose, CA  
Walter and Janet Schuchmann, Fort Collins, CO  
Sharla Schultz, Lincoln, NE

Schwab Charitable Fund/Cecily Drucker, San Francisco, CA  
Schwab Charitable Fund/James and Linda Bily Charitable Fund, San Francisco, CA  
Schwab Charitable Fund/Joan Winstein, San Francisco, CA

Schwab Charitable Fund/John and Sally Stevenson, San Francisco, CA  
Schwab Charitable Fund/Keith and Kyla Ely, San Francisco, CA

Schwab Charitable Fund/Nathan and Karen Dick, San Francisco, CA  
Schwab Charitable Fund/Susan Medak and Greg Murphy, San Francisco, CA  
Garland and Marlys Seibert, Ankeny, IA  
Mary Jo Seifert, Estes Park, CO

Charlotte and John Shepic, Lakewood, CO  
Amy Shertzer, Monument, CO  
Lois Shroyer, Springfield, OH  
Peter and Mary Shultz, Westminster, CO  
Linda Siegrist, Loveland, CO  
Herman Sievering, Boulder, CO  
Cathryn Simkins, Chicago, IL  
Susan and Michael Sisk, Estes Park, CO  
Harriet and Dennis Sisson, Fayetteville, AR  
Elena Slusser, Longmont, CO  
Kimberly and Dan Smeak, Fort Collins, CO  
Catherine Smith, San Diego, CA:

**In honor of Anna Lundberg**

Stuart and Elizabeth Smith, Waco, TX:  
**In honor of Betsy and Maggie Wright**  
Carol Ann and Randolph Smith, Spring, TX  
Francoise Smith, Fort Collins, CO  
James and Carolyn Smith, Highlands Ranch, CO

Pete and Carol Smith, Estes Park, CO  
Bob and Kathie Smith, Walterboro, SC  
Robert and Deana Smith, Oklahoma City, OK  
Louis and Donna Sobczyk, Omaha, NE  
Patricia Sokolik, Longmont, CO  
Linda Sperber, Lakewood, CO  
Margaret Spitzer, Greeley, CO  
Elmer Sprague, Brookline, MA  
Peter and June Sprenkle, Boulder, CO  
Ken and Diane Staroscik, Firestone, CO  
John Stauffer, Topeka, KS  
Lisa Stavaridis, Danvers, MA:

**In memory of Jean P. Dormer**

Doug Stearn, Golden, CO  
Gene and Martha Stehman, Fort Collins, CO  
Eric Stein, Calabasas, CA:

**In memory of Gaye Franklin**

Anna Stevens, Madison, WI  
Adam and Julie Stewart, Arvada, CO  
William and Mary Kay Stoehr, Boulder, CO  
Rosemary Stoffel, Denver, CO  
Michael Stohl, Santa Barbara, CA  
Marty and Martha Stokely, Beech Island, SC  
Gerald and Elizabeth Stonecipher, Fort Collins, CO

Danielle Stoppenbach, Burlington, WI:

**In honor of Hilary Pope and David Thomas**

Jane Stotts, Blue Ash, OH  
Stephen Strachan, Parker, CO  
Phillip Straffin, Jr., Longmont, CO  
William Straw, Aurora, CO  
Francis and LaVerne Strehl, Oak Brook, IL  
Karin Stromswold, Princeton, NJ:

**In memory of Jean P. Dormer**

Brian Stutheit, Littleton, CO  
Evan Sugarbaker, Columbus, OH  
Wayne Sullender, Estes Park, CO  
Allen and Christine Susedik, Eau Claire, WI  
Jerome Sutherland, Denver, CO  
Clyde Sutton, Colorado Springs, CO  
Paula Sutton, Loveland, CO

James and Jan Swaney, Estes Park, CO  
Ryan Swanson, Wheat Ridge, CO  
Jim and Sue Swanson, Denver, CO  
Robert and Lyda Sweeney, Estes Park, CO

**In memory of Ed & Jean Szews**

Nancy Sworts, Arvada, CO  
Karen Szews, Greenfield, WI:  
Greg Taber, Edmond, OK  
Laurie and Brian Tarola, Dillon, CO  
Mary Ann Tavery, Denver, CO  
Ingrid Taylor, Oakland, CA

Pat and John Taylor, Silverthorne, CO  
Vickie and Alex Taylor, La Canada, CA  
Matthew and Jennifer Teeuwen, Lakewood, CO

Denise and Lance Thatcher, Thornton, CO  
The Adorjan Family Foundation, St. Louis, MO

The Community Foundation Boulder County/Lawrence and Rosemary Arp Gifting Fund, Boulder, CO  
The Community Foundation Boulder County/Thomas and Kathryn Hornbein, Boulder, CO

The Family Mayer Foundation/The Jenulis Family, Boulder, CO  
The Graham Edwin and Sharon Janosik Mitchell Foundation, West Chester, OH  
The Joseph Charitable Trust, Louisville, KY

The Northern Trust Company/Daniel J. Wilhelm, Chicago, IL  
The T. Rowe Price Program for Charitable Giving/The Phil and Starr Teague Charitable Gift Fund, Baltimore, MD

The T. Rowe Price Program for Charitable Giving/Victoria L. Herring, Baltimore, MD  
The T. Rowe Price Program for Charitable Giving/William Tindall Charitable Fund, Baltimore, MD  
The Wildland Trekking Company, Flagstaff, AZ

**In memory of Jean and John Thiemann**

Peter Thiemann, San Jose, CA:  
Corinne Thomas, Estes Park, CO  
David and Susan Thomas, Estes Park, CO  
Herbert and Sharon Thompson, Decatur, IL  
Heather and Gregory Thorwald, Westminster, CO

Nancy and John Thut, Estes Park, CO  
TIAA Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association/The Gordon Family Foundation, Charlotte, NC  
Rebecca Timmins and Michael Barnes, Merrifield, MN

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Tipps, Houston, TX  
Ned Tisserat and Jan Leach, Loveland, CO  
Eleanor Tjossem, Marshalltown, IA  
Brit Tobin and Jeff Eastin, Bell Canyon, CA:

**In memory of Sherry Jean Eastin**

John and Tate Todd, Greeley, CO  
Mick Todd, Greeley, CO  
Stephanie Torrez, New Castle, CO  
Gary and Suanne Townsend, Longmont, CO  
Alex Travnicek, Colorado Springs, CO  
Barbara Trofholz, Estes Park, CO:

**In honor of Megan and Katie**

Margaret Trosino, San Jose, CA  
Betty and Christian Trummel, Harwich, MA  
Larry and Linda Tryon, Fort Collins, CO  
Linda Trzyna, Colorado Springs, CO  
Carl and Christine Tubbs, Franktown, CO  
Susan Turman, Denver, CO  
Deborah Tyler, Estes Park, CO:

**In memory of Neal & Anna Payder**

Floyd and Leslie Tyson, Eaton, CO  
Barbara Van Horne, Denver, CO  
Jean and Joe Van Winkle, Estes Park, CO  
Ellen and John VanDyk, Littleton, CO  
Scott VanEyck, Cherry Hills Village, CO  
Vanguard Charitable/Edward and Mary Moyer, Warwick, RI

Vanguard Charitable/Marlys and Philip Robertson, Warwick, RI  
Vanguard Charitable/The Tuttle Family Fund, Warwick, RI

Stephanie VanLangenhoven, Louisville, CO  
Robert and Karen Venohr, Aurora, CO  
Dr. Frank C. Marino Foundation Inc., Baltimore, MD

Barbara Vriezelaar, Monroe, IA  
Gary and Diana Wade, Loveland, CO  
Priscilla Wagener, Boulder, CO

Ronald and Linda Wagner, Roeland Park, KS  
Sue Wagner, Brookville, KS  
Melissa Walker, Colorado Springs, CO

Richard and Carol Walker, Butler, PA  
Julie and Timothy Walsh, Windsor, CO  
Robert and Lynn Waltman, Greeley, CO  
Roger Alan Walton and Helen T. Anderson, Lakewood, CO

Weldon and Eva Wamble, Houston, TX  
Sharon Ward, Fort Collins, CO  
Cynthia and David Warrick, Highlands Ranch, CO

Joe and Barb Wasung, Greeley, CO  
Cory Watkins, Seattle, WA:

**In honor of Louise Atteridg**

Steve and Carol Watson, Bozrah, CT  
Linda Wax, Boulder, CO  
Sarah Webb, Alstead, NH  
Barbara Weber, Denver, CO  
Steven Weber, Castle Rock, CO  
Andrea Webster, Maineville, OH  
Karen Weedman, Fort Collins, CO  
Tim Welch, Littleton, CO  
Randy Wells, Woodlands, TX

Sharon K. Welton, Springfield, MO  
William and Marlene Wenk, Denver, CO  
The Ewing Werlein, Jr. Family, Houston, TX  
Pete and Bonnie West, Denver, CO  
Daniel Westcott, Lakewood, CO  
Charles and Constance Wetterer, Colorado Springs, CO

Chris and Kelly Wheeler, Louisville, CO  
Whitney and Jim Wheelless, Boulder, CO  
Joan Whitbeck, Denver, CO  
Caitlin White, Boulder, CO

Steve White, Van Wert, OH  
Susan Whitfield, Evergreen, CO  
Nancy Wigington, Boulder, CO  
Lawrence and Linda Williams, Estes Park, CO

**Correction:** *The Nature Notes photo in the 2018 Autumn Quarterly erroneously identified the bull and cow moose as two cow moose. Also, photo credit should have been: Photo: Rocky Mountain Transit Conservancy member Rick Papineau.*

Linda and Howard Williams,  
Colorado Springs, CO

Michael Williams, Highlands Ranch, CO  
Nancy Williams, Seattle, WA  
Betty Williamson, Longmont, CO  
Dawn Wilson, Fort Collins, CO:

**In memory of Richard Barberot, Jr.**

Dale and Kathleen Winder, Fort Collins, CO  
Joan and Bruce Winstein, Pak Park, IL:

**In memory of Bruce Winstein**

Ronald Wood, Fort Collins, CO  
Thomas and Judith Wright, Berthoud, CO  
Stephanie Wuenstel, Pittsburgh, PA  
Suzanne and William Wuerthele, Denver, CO  
Susan Yancik, Boulder, CO:

**In memory of Frank and Marion Yancik**

Michael and Suanne Yarbrough, Fraser, CO  
Diane Yates and Peter Pollock, Boulder, CO  
Carol and Dean Yobb, Chicora, PA  
Cynthia Yomantas and Steven Bauman, Brookfield, WI

YourCause/Jane Stout, Plano, TX

YourCause/Susan Bourque, Plano, TX

Richard A. Zelenka, Loveland, CO

Jenny and Gary Zittergruen, Van Horn, IA  
Howard and Faye Zuckerman, Dexter, MI

**All In Memory of Geri Stutheit**

Caryl Beaty, Fort Collins, CO

Harold and Betty Asmus, Fort Collins, CO

Rodney and Mary Anderson,  
Fort Collins, CO

Robert and Sally Braddy, Fort Collins, CO  
nor Dwight, Fort Collins, CO  
Greuel, Fort Collins, CO

Thomas and Karen Guter, Fort Collins, CO

William and Laurel McClellan,  
Fort Collins, CO

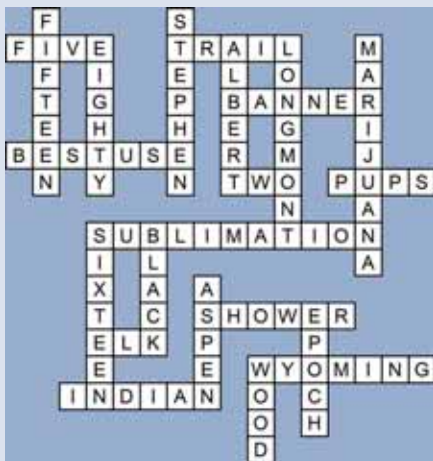
Janet McNulty, Fort Collins, CO

Guy and Wilma Mirich, Tempe, AZ

Paul Stutheit, Kremmling, CO

William and Eloise Tosch, Fort Collins, CO

## PARK PUZZLER SOLUTION



## Quick-Fix Science

### Effects of Beaver Dams on Riparian Areas

#### The Question: What is the role of beaver dams on hydrological processes in montane riparian areas?

Understanding the hydrological processes such as inundation and recharge of alluvial aquifers in riparian areas is key to proper management of rivers and watersheds. For example, these processes can influence biodiversity by providing wildlife habitat for a disproportionately large number of wildlife species (e.g. birds, butterflies, small mammals, insects, and amphibians). Biologists have long assumed that beavers (*Castor canadensis*) may influence hydrologic processes in riparian areas of rivers through the building of dams. Researchers conducted this study in order to test the assumption that beaver dams play an integral role in creating and maintaining healthy montane riparian areas.

#### The Project: Measure ground water flow patterns and levels before and after the breach/construction of two beaver dams.

During the summers of 2002–2004, Cherie Westbrook and David Cooper (Colorado State University) and Bruce Baker (USGS) used 95 pipe wells to measure subsurface water flow patterns and water table fluctuations along a one-mile reach of the Colorado River containing two beaver dams. One of the dams was constructed in October 2003, and the other dam breached in May 2004, allowing researchers to take surface and subsurface hydrologic data in the study area in the presence and absence of beaver dams.



#### The Results: Beavers can influence hydrological processes in streams and valleys, thus creating flow patterns suitable for the formation and persistence of wetlands.

This study found that beaver dams strongly affect the hydrologic processes of the Colorado River and its floodplain and terraces near its headwaters. The beaver dams and ponds greatly enhance the depth, extent, and duration of inundation associated with floods. Additionally, the investigators found that beaver dams elevate the water table during both high and low river flows, and slow the decline of the water table during dry months. Unlike previous studies, the researchers found that the main effects of beaver dams occur below the dam and not just at the pond created by the dam. Overall this study confirms that beavers and their associated dams play an important role in the formation, function, and persistence of riparian wetlands.

For more information on the park's research program, visit [www.nps.gov/romo](http://www.nps.gov/romo).

**Florida:** A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE, WITHIN THE STATES, 800-435-7352 (800-HELP-FLA) OR BY VISITING [www.FloridaConsumerHelp.com](http://www.FloridaConsumerHelp.com) REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. Florida Registration #CH47404. **Georgia:** A full and fair description of our programs and our financial statement summary is available upon request at our office and phone number indicated above. **Colorado:** Colorado residents may obtain copies of registration and financial documents from the office of the Secretary of State, 303-894-2860, [www.sos.state.co.us/](http://www.sos.state.co.us/) Reg. No. 20063004207. **Maryland:** For the cost of copies and postage, from the Office of the Secretary of State, State House, Annapolis, MD 21401. **Michigan:** MICS #54862. **Mississippi:** The official registration and financial information of ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONSERVANCY may be obtained from the Mississippi Secretary of State's office by calling 888-236-6167. Registration by the Secretary of State does not imply endorsement. **New Jersey:** INFORMATION FILED WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CONCERNING THIS CHARITABLE SOLICITATION AND THE PERCENTAGE OF CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED BY THE CHARITY DURING THE LAST REPORTING PERIOD THAT WERE DEDICATED TO THE CHARITABLE PURPOSE MAY BE OBTAINED FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY BY CALLING 973-504-6215 AND IS AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT: <http://www.state.nj.us/lps/ca/charfrm.htm>. REGISTRATION WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT. **New York:** Upon Request, Attorney General Charities Bureau, 102 Broadway, New York, NY 10271. **North Carolina:** Financial information about this organization and a copy of its license are available for the State Solicitation Licensing Branch at 919-807-2214. This is not an endorsement by the state. **Pennsylvania:** The official registration and financial information of ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONSERVANCY may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free within Pennsylvania 800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. **Virginia:** State Division of Consumer Affairs, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, PO Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23218. **Washington:** Secretary of State at 800-332-4483 or <http://www.sos.wa.gov/charities/>. **West Virginia:** West Virginia residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial documents from the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston, WV 25305. REGISTRATION WITH A STATE AGENCY DOES NOT CONSTITUTE OR IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THAT STATE



View from the top  
Photo: Sherry Caldwell

## Nature Notes

Winter in the high country of Rocky Mountain National Park is a season of extremes. From high winds that sweep us off our feet and sweep snow into steep drifts on the tundra, to balmy days just right for a nap in the sun. It's a time of subtleties, when wildlife is seen in tracks and scat left in the snow, and when morning skies bring colors so sublime 🐾 In November, RMNP Woodcrafter **Cory Johnson** was closing up the park sign shop for the night when he heard a couple of great horned owls hooting outside. As he shut off the last light and stepped outside, an owl flew over the parking lot right over his head and landed in a tree on the corner of the building. It sat 20 feet up and hooted to the other owl in the distance for a few minutes before flying off 🐾 RMNP Restoration Ecologist **Jim Bromberg** notes that winter is typically a time when most plants are dormant. But upon closer inspection, that's not always the case. For example, last winter, willows were producing catkins in December. It's sometimes hard to know what fluctuations in conditions might trigger a particular growth stage in plants outside of the typical growing season, but they all respond to varying amounts of light, temperature and precipitation. Be on the lookout, and with the right conditions you might just catch certain species of plants come out of dormancy again this winter 🐾 Driving to work one morning in mid-December, Conservancy Publications Director **Nancy Wilson** was startled out of her morning daze by the flight of a large brown-and-white and white raptor flying about two feet off the hood of her car. The bird flew close enough to see the small, luckless creature hanging from the raptor's beak. *That* sure snapped her awake! 🐾 On a winter trek to Nymph Lake, retired RMNP Wildlife Biologist **Gary Miller** and family were scolded by chickarees, saw numerous snowshoe hare tracks, and spotted the large chunks of pine bark on the snow indicating American three-toed woodpecker activity. Gary also noted that although a beaver died from *tularemia* at Lily Lake late last summer (2018), there were fresh beaver cuttings this fall, which indicated either some survival or immigration following the mortality. That's good news! And the bighorn sheep of the Big Thompson Canyon appear to have had a good year, with a number of lambs and yearlings observed on multiple trips through the canyon 🐾 An Estes Park resident reported that as late as December 9, 2018, bear activity was evident around his bear-proof trash cans. This is the latest in the season that bears have been sighted in the area, and it was clear that the bear had given the trash cans a run for their money. Bears are not true hibernators, in that they are known to wake up during the course of the winter. This state

of denning is often referred to as "winter lethargy" or "winter sleep." 🐾 Conservancy Membership Services Associate **Alexis Arnold** spotted a young dark-gray Abert's squirrel sitting in a tree along the Lily Mountain trail in late fall. Fun fact: Abert's squirrels are ecologically and exclusively tied to the ponderosa pine ecosystem. Alexis also observed a gang of elk in Estes Park, just hanging around, with light sparring here and there. A magpie landed on one of the sparring elk and stayed on for the ride. Woohoo! Alexis lives in an area of Estes Park where wild turkeys congregate. One morning in early December, she woke to the cacophony of screeches and flutters that was the turkeys fighting. No gobbling there. 🐾 A pragmatic magpie was spotted hunkered down and half-covered with snow in the top of a conifer one windy eight-degree morning in December in Rocky Mountain National Park 🐾 An Estes Park resident witnessed two vehicles driving down Highway 36 behind the closed RMNP entrance gate by the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center during the government shutdown. She thought the park had reopened the road until she saw the vehicles dart across the meadow between Highway 36 and High Drive. As it happened, one of the cars got stuck in the grasses, and the witness was able to capture clear photos of the license plates, which she turned in to park law enforcement 🐾 With road closures and snowy drifts in abundance, now is an exceptionally good time to start dreaming about and planning for your next visit to Rocky! Stay strong — spring is coming!



*This bighorn sheep yearling was spotted in the Big Thompson Canyon in early January sporting what looks like an umbilical hernia. Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Veterinarian Lisa Wolfe reported that the CPW has received a number of reports about it, and while they don't know how this will resolve itself, the sheep appears to be staying healthy — for now.*

*Photo: Conservancy members Kent and Carolyn Carlson*