



GGA EVENTS
PAGE 3



PROJECTS
PAGE 6



GGA PROFILE
PAGE 13



CURRENT EVENTS
PAGE 4

SEPTEMBER 2025

THE FISH TALE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we wind up this summer vacation and fishing season, my attention is turning to nominations for next year's GGA Board and executive committee. For the most part, GGA depends on board members and other volunteers to lead programs and activities. Next year we are in particular need of Board members interested in helping out with:

- *River conservation and restoration,*
- *Youth education,*
- *Member recruitment,*
- *Fundraising,*
- *Event planning and coordination, and*
- *The monthly newsletter.*

If you have an interest in any of these activities, please consider volunteering to serve on the Board. You will find it rewarding and a fun way to spend your time. If you are interested, please contact me at Hamilldsrt50@msn.com

Until next time, I hope you enjoy the rest of your summer and find time to get out for some great fall fishing. For me, the best time of the year is still ahead.

Yours in conservation,

John Hamill, President



GGA Board Members

President: John Hamill

Vice President: Open

Past President: Joel Evans

Secretary: Connor Visser

Treasurer: Stan Hayes

Games Manager: Joel Evans

Newsletter/Editor: Brent Curtice

Website: Claire Barker

Board Member: Marshall Pendergrass

Board Member: Chuck Shaver

Board Member: Ed LeViness

Board Member: Kim Childs

Board Member: Bill Frangos

Board Member: John Fischer

Board Member: Robert Kato

If you have photos or submissions for the newsletter are due by the first of the month please contact Brent Curtice.

cell: 970-270-8180

bcurtice007@gmail.com



"There is certainly something in angling that tends to produce a gentleness of spirit and a pure sincerity of mind."

-Washington Irving

-Charles Kuralt

GGA EVENTS

Save the Dates

****September 4, Block. Party at Mayfly Outdoors 4:30 - 6:30pm***

****Cottonwood Days, Gunnison River Sept. 8-12***

****GGA Board Meeting Sept 24, 6:00-8:00 Cobble Creek***



***"Often I have been exhausted on trout streams,
uncomfortable, wet, cold, briar scarred, sunburned,
mosquito bitten, but never, with a fly rod in my hand have
I been less than in a place that was less than beautiful."
-Charles Kuralt***

CURRENT EVENTS

GGA SUMMER BASH WAS A GREAT SUCESS

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7TH



CURRENT EVENTS



SEE YOU ALL THERE!

PROJECTS



“Healing America’s veterans through the therapeutic art of fly fishing.”

September 2025

Grand Mesa Outing

We picked a terrific day to hold a day outing on Ward Creek Reservoir in August.

Veteran participants enjoyed the opportunity to learn from experienced mentors casting both from the shoreline and from personal watercraft. Thanks to Kris Frame for bringing his drift boat and mentoring a visually impaired participant who caught several trout by feeling the take of his fly as it glided behind the boat. Another veteran discovered a new favorite fly he dubbed the “sea monkey” after learning the fly was an imitation of a freshwater shrimp. We look forward to continuing the healing of our program veterans through the therapeutic art of fly fishing.



PROJECTS



"Healing America's veterans through the therapeutic art of fly fishing."



PROJECTS



Williams Creek Outing

In collaboration with the Four Corners PHW program and the Adaptive Sports Association of Durango, three of our program veteran participants were guests at the Williams Creek Reservoir during the month of August. The scenery alone made the drive through Red Mountain Pass worthwhile. Unlike other overnight outings, this was a camping outing, so sleeping bags and cots replaced plush motel beds. Fish were caught at both Williams Creek Reservoir and its inlet. Species included, rainbows, cutthroat, tigers, and even kokanee salmon that were beginning their spawning run up the namesake creek. This outing allowed veterans from both programs to develop new friendships and paved the way for future collaborative efforts.



PROJECTS



PROJECTS



Delta Elks Presentation

A certificate of appreciation was recently presented to the Delta Elks Lodge for their generous donation of \$1,000. The donation will be allocated to support program expenses throughout 2025. We are grateful for the ongoing support from Elks Lodge #1235 members.



Guide School Outing

The Colorado Outdoor Adventure Guide School (COAGS) in Colbran recently reconnected with our PHW program and asked for assistance. The school completed its latest fly fishing guide class and requested veterans from Montrose and Grand Junction to serve as “clients” for the graduates to practice their newly acquired guide skills. The participants brushed up on their casting skills and learned how to catch the wary rainbows and brookies at Mesa Lake. One Montrose participant even caught her first trout on a fly! This is a terrific win/win activity that benefited multiple organizations. And like the Williams Creek outing, it allowed veterans from both programs to experience camaraderie, community, and connectedness inherent with PHW programs nationwide.



PROJECTS



Forward Cast

Twice monthly rod building and fly tying sessions are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at the Warrior Resource Center in Montrose. The monthly fly fishing education meeting is held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Elks Lodge in Delta. NOTE: exceptions to this schedule may occur during months with five Tuesdays or Wednesdays.

- *Sep. 2 (1st Tues.) Fly tying & Rod Building - Warrior Resource Center from 6-8 pm*
- *Sep. 10 (2nd Wed.) Fly Fishing Education - Delta Elks*
- *Sep. 16-18 Overnight Outing – Lake City*
- *Sep. 23 (4th Tues.) Fly tying & Rod Building - Warrior Resource Center from 6-8 pm*
- *Oct. 1 (1st Wed. Fly tying - Warrior Resource Center from 6-8 pm*
- *Oct. 8 (2nd Wed.) Fly Fishing Education - Delta Elks from 6-8 pm*



PROJECTS



Help Grow the Program

If you know a disabled veteran (*with or without a disability rating*) who might be interested in learning more about our program, contact Kent Chavet at:

kent.chavet@projecthealingwaters.org -or- azflyfisher@hotmail.com

To learn more about the national organization, see website: [Project Healing Waters](http://ProjectHealingWaters.org)

Social Media

For updated news and photographs, check out our Facebook page at:

[Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing - Montrose, Colorado Program](https://www.facebook.com/ProjectHealingWatersFlyFishing-Montrose-Colorado-Program)

Donate

Kindly use [this link](#) or QR code to help fund Montrose PHW program activities.



Thank you for your consideration and thank you to the many GGA members who have shared their expertise and donated funds to help our local veterans in their fly fishing endeavors!





GGA SPOTLIGHT

Past and Present ICONS



WILL RETURN NEXT MONTH

PHOTO GALLERY



Thank you to all the anglers who submitted photos for the Newsletter.

Regional Reports

Ed's Fly Shop, Montrose, CO

432 E. Main Street

Montrose, Colorado 81401

970-372-2395

Ed's Fly Shop offers fly fishing gear, accessories, fly tying supplies to anglers, and many different trips.





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Rigs Fly Shop, Ridgway, CO
<https://fishrigs.com>, 1075 Sherman St., Unit 101,
Ridgway, 970-626-4460, info@fishrigs.com



Gunnison River Expeditions, Hotchkiss, CO

We are the largest and most experienced outfitter in the Gunnison Gorge. www.gunnisonriverexpeditions.com 970-872-3232



THANK YOU SPONSORS



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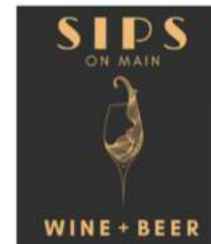
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