

**Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him for a car ride, he sticks his head out the window?**

**Dr. Axton, Pheasantologist**

I tried Flintstones Vitamins. I didn't feel any better, but I could stop the car with my feet.

I am being forced to get into shape. I am not in bad shape, round, but I won the lotto last week and now I have to get back into physical condition so I can achieve the goals that I didn't know until a few days ago I had to conquer.

I have always considered myself to be a pretty lucky guy. I have a great family, lots of friends and wonderful members that I consider to be part of my extended family.

I really felt blessed and it was almost like winning the lottery when I met my best friend and wife, Rebecca. We tied the knot after I slowed down long enough for her to catch me and we finally got married last July. The roller coaster ride is just beginning and it has been fun to have a partner to scream and cry with.

I have been playing the lotto of the hunting world by buying a few raffle tickets for guns and hunts here and there, but I have been applying for the coveted Rocky Mountain Goat and Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep licenses here in Colorado. I also apply for Elk and Deer and Moose and Antelope. Occasionally I win a tag for the Deer and Elk and Pronghorn, but this year, to my surprise, I drew the Mountain Goat tag in unit 16 for September.

A week ago I decided to check the Colorado Division of Wildlife's website again to see if I was dreaming about getting a Goat tag after applying for 14 years, and sure enough I was listed as a successful applicant. While I was checking and pinching myself, I saw that I had also been drawn for the Bighorn Sheep tag in unit 50.

I didn't know that I could still do back flips...actually I tried and landed flat on my back, but to say the least I was floored and more than excited about getting a license in a unit where there are huge rams and one

where the state only gives two licenses out each year.

I didn't get my refund checks like I have for the past 14 years, but now I know that I am in a forced exercise program so I can be ready for my adventure this September.

Sometimes if it wasn't for bad luck, we wouldn't have any luck at all, but if you have read my weekly emails and quarterly newsletters, you know that I would look for a pony in a pile of poop. I feel there is always a silver lining in a cloud and that there is a light at the end of a tunnel, even if it is a train coming straight at me.

Positive thinking is healthy. I know that some of us have to overcome odds that seem to be insurmountable, but if we can eat an entire horse if we put our minds to it...one bite at a time.



"Wake up. The cat's got your teeth."

We are taking one bite at a time at the club this year too. We are gaining ground daily on putting in new crops, changing the old ones and with the help of member Cody Gray...the weed doctor...we are continuing to put a hurt on those pesky sand burrs.

We are building a new PYRAMID and hard wiring the sporting clay range so the BB's don't keep tearing up our wires to the machines.

The repairs are happening right now from the hail storm that clobbered us right before the season started last year and a big thanks

goes out to Roger Grace from Holladay Grace Roofing and Kevin Cavanaugh from Ken Caryl Glass for the assistance and fantastic work they have done.

We are all being affected by the price of fuel, feed, groceries and even dog food. There is no way around it, but it makes YOUR club an even better investment in your outdoor recreation. How you might ask? Why does the increase in gas make RMR a perfect option?

It is much closer to drive to YOUR club than to Kansas or Nebraska or South Dakota to hunt birds. You can schedule time to be with your friends and family and clients and not have to be away from your vocation longer than necessary so you can have a bird hunting fix.

You *know* we can pack a lot of good bird shooting into a short time, or better yet, spend the day and enjoy the morning and afternoon with us! There is nothing telling you that you only have to hunt a half day and go home and do yard work or go back to work and finish what can wait until tomorrow.

Taking time for yourself is healthy and you can tell people that you have a prescription from the Doctor to get outside, put away your daily cares and clear the cobwebs from your brain for a while.

Our mental health staff at RMR continues to remain the same and we are here to serve you in any way that we can.

If you have someone that you think would like to be a patient at the facility, let them know we can help them and appreciate your referrals!

Pat your wife and kids on the head and give the dog a kiss for me. Get ready for a fantastic year at YOUR club and thanks for another birthday....23 and going strong!

## RMR Dog Trainer at Home on the Plains and in the Field



The last year has gone by fast and the new dog trainer at RMR has had rave reviews by members who have had the opportunity to use him. Ben Garcia and his wife Amanda (who are expecting their second child any day now) have set up shop at the club and have done great things with the kennels.

Ben's new video "First Steps" has been a great help to those of you who are training your own dogs, and that is still available for purchase at a discount off of retail if you call him and tell him you are an RMR member.

Whether you have a German Shorthair, a Chesapeake Bay Retriever, a Labrador or a Brittany, Ben handles all breeds and is available to take on your dog for training. I recommend that you call him to set up an appointment to meet him and see what programs he has available for your specific need. Call him directly at the kennel at 719-347-2575. If he doesn't answer, he is in the field training but will call you back when he has the dogs down for the night! [ben@hideawaykennels.com](mailto:ben@hideawaykennels.com)

## May Renewals Are Due Now

**May** is a renewal month for most of the members at Rocky Mountain Roosters. Members that are due to renew need to have their

applications filled out and returned with their dues now to be eligible to get the additional two free hunts for renewing on time. (If you need another app, email me an I will send one..several were lost in the mail)

When you are filling out the application make certain that you sign the liability release and put your email address on the application so you can get timely updates from RMR. Members do not receive the additional hunts if they renew late. The deadline was extended to Friday May 30 due to mailing problems.

If you did not receive a letter and application for renewal, then you are not a member that needs to renew in May. If you are not a May renewing member you will be mailed a letter and application the first of the month prior to your renewal.

If you have questions about your renewal you can call the office and we can help you. If you have a friend you would like to join the club, let us know and if you refer a new member you receive a free hunt for this season!

## FUN TIME FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY THIS SUMMER...Rompin'Stompin' Rodeo!!

The Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo is a tradition that has been held in Colorado Springs for the past 68 years and the money raised from the event goes to support military charities locally.

RMR has teamed up to help promote the PPOB Rodeo and we are in charge of the Mutton Bustin' Event again this year. You can go to the web site to see everything about the rodeo, but we are asking for your help.

There are packages of tickets —reserved seating—that include dinner and a ticket for the rodeo and there are 10 tickets in a pack for only \$240. You just need to pick a time to come have fun between July 9-12. (Saturday night is \$290 for the 10 pack) Bring your family, friends and clients...make a fun day supporting the event and helping out the military men and women here in Colorado.

If you have a child that is **under 55 pounds** and between the age of 4 and 7, sign them up to ride a sheep in the rodeo! Everyone wins, the kids have a blast and they get to say they are a real cowboy or cowgirl for the day! We had a bunch of members bring their kids and grandkids last year and it was an absolute hoot!!

Put a group together, (kids under 12 are cheaper...just call me for prices...the Saturday matinee kids rodeo tickets are only a dollar!!) and lets have some fun. If you have other friends that you know would want to come, we have plenty of tickets and it is a super price for fun and food.

Again, the event dates are July 9-12 and the annual parade is the night of the 8th at 7pm. You can order your tickets until June 15 from RMR and then you will have to get them from the rodeo folks.....come play with us at the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo!!



Call me at the office at 719-635-3257 for tickets and look at their web site at [www.coloradospringsrodeo.com](http://www.coloradospringsrodeo.com) .



## Always Wash It First...Good to Know

waii. When he got back, he was complaining that the storeroom was really filthy and that he had noticed dried mouse or rat droppings in some areas.

A couple of days later, he started to feel like he was coming down with stomach flu, complained of sore joints and headaches and began to vomit. He went to bed and never really got up again.

Within two days he was severely ill and weak. His blood sugar count was down to 66, and his face and eyeballs were yellow. He was rushed to the emergency at Pali-Momi, where he was diagnosed to be suffering from massive organ failure. He died shortly before midnight.

No one would have made the connection between his job and his death, had it not been for a doctor who specifically asked if he had been in a warehouse or exposed to dried rat or mouse droppings at any time. They said there is a virus (much like the Hanta virus) that lives in dried rat and mouse droppings. Once dried, these droppings are like dust and can easily be breathed in or ingested if a person does not wear protective gear or fails to wash face and hands thoroughly. An autopsy was performed on the clerk to verify the doctor's suspicions.

This is why it is extremely important to ALWAYS carefully rinse off the **tops of canned sodas or foods, to wipe off pasta packaging, cereal boxes, and so on.** Almost everything you buy in a supermarket was stored in a warehouse at one time or another and stores themselves often have rodents. Most of us remember to **wash vegetables and fruits** but never think of **boxes and cans.**

The ugly truth is, even the most modern, upper class, super stores have rats and mice. And their warehouse most assuredly does!

Whenever you buy any canned soft drink, please make sure that you wash the top with running water and soap or, if that is not available, drink with a straw.

The investigation of soda cans by the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta discovered that the tops of soda cans can be encrusted with **dried rat urine**, which is so toxic it can be lethal. Canned drinks and other foodstuffs are stored in warehouses and containers that are usually infested with rodents, and then they get transported to retail outlets without being properly cleaned.

### INFO ABOUT CLOTHES DRYERS

The heating unit went out on my dryer! The repairman said that he wanted to show us something and he went over to the dryer and pulled out the lint filter. It was clean. (I always clean the lint from the filter after every load clothes.)

He told us that he wanted to show us something; he took the filter over to the sink, ran hot water over it. The lint filter is made of a mesh material.

I'm sure you know what your dryer's lint filter looks like. WELL...the hot water just sat on top of the mesh! It didn't go through it at all! He told us that dryer sheets cause a film over that mesh that's what burns out the heating unit. You can't SEE the film, but it's there. It's what is in the dryer sheets to make your clothes soft and static free - that nice fragrance too, you know how they can feel waxy when you take them out of the box, well this stuff builds up on your clothes and on your lint screen This is also what causes dryer units to catch fire and potentially burn your house down with it!

He said the best way to keep your dryer working for a very long time (and to keep your electric bill lower) is to take that filter out and wash it with hot soapy water and an old toothbrush (or other brush) at least every six months. He said that makes the life of the dryer at least twice as long! How about that!?!

Learn something new every day! I certainly didn't know dryer sheets would do that.

## GIANT QUAIL AT RMR



Last fall we started a new program at RMR with the Bob-white Quail. We used one big area without a bunch of tall trees and good cover and only ran 100 bird hunts. It went very well and we ran out of quail faster than we could imagine and we had hunters waiting in line to shoot these great birds.

Since we will now have two QUAIL ONLY areas, we will not be releasing Quail into the other hunting areas any longer. We will be holding all GIANT QUAIL hunts in two areas and any member that wants to hunt Quail will hunt in the new area. This will make for an exciting hunt and more coveys.

We have contracted enough birds for **40 GIANT QUAIL HUNTS** and we will only hunt Quail from September 15 through December 15. If you want to put your name on a GAIINT hunt or two, call the office and get on the list. Put your group together and we will go have a blast. If you like to shoot the little rockets, think about some dates and we will book you. Scheduling will be critical as you can imagine.

The GIANT QUAIL HUNT is an all day hunt for four hunters and includes 100 birds, guide and dogs and is only \$750 for the day. You can not have more than four hunters on this hunt. If you have more than four, you can have two hunts and split the hunters, it is just two limits at \$750 per limit.

You don't have to know what days you want to hunt, but you do have to reserve your hunts since we will not be bringing in more birds than the 40 GIANT HUNTS. If you reserve a GIANT QUAIL hunt you will be responsible for using it or paying for the birds. Remember that we will only hunt the Quail from September 15- December 15 (this is so we can guarantee you good flying birds) It is a blast....you need to try one, or two...three??

# RMR CELEBRATES IT'S 23rd BIRTHDAY

On May 25th we will celebrate another birthday with our great RMR family. We survived the 2007 year of WHITE and came back strong with plenty of birds and great hunting. We have you to thank for a super year and your support of your club. The guys are in the field now putting in the crops as I write and we are expecting a good year with the moisture we have in the ground now.

With the cost of fuel it makes more sense now than ever to belong to RMR and we will continue to offer you the best upland bird hunting that we can. We are changing up some of the hunting areas to give you more cover to chase the wiley ringnecks and chukar partridge. We will still be doing the GIANT QUAIL hunts and are taking reservations for your all day hunts for these little rockets.

Our trainer, Ben Garcia is going to have several DOG DAYS at the club this summer and you are more than welcome to come and get some tricks of the trade at these seminars as well.

Don't wait until the season is upon us to get your dogs in shape. It is critical that you keep them on an athletic training program this summer so they are not on a crash course to get in the hunting mode. When you are training, keep your dogs hydrated and you need to stay hydrated as well. If you are not using the ZOOM DOG products, you should look into them for your four legged friends. All of our dogs at the kennel use the tasty treats and it helps them in their overall health. If you have questions about the ZOOM DOG products, give Ben a call and he can tell you what is available and his number at the kennel is 719-347-2575.

Get ready for another fun year chasing birds and having quality time with your friends and family. If you know that you would like to host a party at your club, just give us a call and lets look at some dates. We have several groups that are scheduling now and you can never be too early to schedule time for relaxation and good times at Rocky Mountain Roosters!! Have a great summer! **If you are not getting our emails and want them, send me an email and I will add you to our weekly newsletter list.**

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