

Fly Fishing Film Tour hands you the world



Outdoors

By Joel L. Evans

Sometimes you go to the world. Sometimes the world comes to you.

Many inventions throughout human history have had a major influence on people's lives. Most have imparted their influence at a local geographic level, that over time spread worldwide. Electricity and the automobile are examples of that.

Contrast two relatively modern inventions. First, television and most recently internet video. You hear and see others world over, but you don't go anywhere. Television and video bring the world to you.

Compare that to the one invention that stands out as to how we experience the world in person - the airplane. Not to rank the airplane in importance, but it is how we go see the world and see it somewhat immediately.

I don't claim to be a world traveler. When it comes to fishing I've been about some but not a lot. Mostly I'm a Colorado fishing traveler. When I did get out and about from home, an airplane was part of the journey.

This Saturday, April 14, at the Montrose Pavilion, is the Fly Fishing Film Tour; F3T as it is called. We all get to experience the fishing world as witnessed by others who took an airplane to places less visited, made a film about it, then put it on display in a convenient package of short films for me to see in my hometown. Combine that with a day of displays and programs about fly fishing and fly tying, and you've got the world in your hand.

Saturday's show has two parts. A free public show begins in the afternoon at 3 p.m. with show booths by a number of outdoor and fly fishing businesses. Manufacturing, retail, guiding and outdoor lands. Accompanying that will be fly tying demonstrations, fly rod casting and program speakers. These activities conclude at 6 p.m.

The film tour doors open at 6 p.m. with a cocktail hour until 7. Films start at 7 and go until 9 or later. F3T is by ticket admission, with tickets \$14 in advance



Craig Baker finds adventure in his own backyard on the Uncompahgre River. (Special to the Montrose Daily Press/Joel L. Evans)

at Montrose Anglers and RIGS, or \$17 at the door. Proceeds benefit the Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership.

These short films are anywhere from five to 20 minutes long, typically 10-15 minutes. These are not instructional films or where to go fishing films, though if you watch intently you will pick up some of that. Rather these are adventure and travel films with a fishing theme. Remember that airplane? The producers used one to get somewhere to make a movie to

bring the world to you.

RIGS and Montrose Anglers are local fishing shops that are sponsoring the show. Find RIGS Adventure Company at fishrigs.com and Montrose Anglers at montroseanglers.com. Special to our Uncompahgre Valley homeland, we have in our very presence, Ross Reels/Abel Reels, a highly awarded fly fishing reel manufacturer right here in our backyard. Not only are they a national sponsor of the F3T, but they have put in a special effort to

make our local show a standout. Other sponsors include Trout Unlimited, Costa, Simms, Yeti and Scientific Anglers.

For a preview of the films, visit the F3T website at flyfilmtour.com for the trailers on adventures in Alaska, Honduras, Mexico, Africa and more.

Learn more about UWP, Uncompahgre Watershed Partnership at uncompahgrewatershed.org. As the local non-profit recipient of the show proceeds, UWP, based in Ridgway, works on watershed issues in the upper Uncompahgre River basin. This includes all aspects of the watershed from economic to scenic to water issues. UWP collaborates with multiple individuals, landowners, government agencies, and non-profits to protect and restore the Uncompahgre's natural resources. In other words, if you live here, you are included.

Much to the chagrin of Sherri, my avid movie-goer spouse, I don't pay much attention to the Oscars and such. I'm paying attention Saturday.

Joel L. Evans is an avid fisherman, outdoor writer, and photographer, who has explored Colorado for decades. He is a financial advisor with Wells Fargo Advisors.

Help your shrubs look their best



Gardening A to Z

By Linda Corwine McIntosh

Pruning can make your shrubs fuller, stimulate prolific blooms, and improve the general health of the plant when done correctly. But you should prune with a couple of specific objectives in mind. One reason to prune a shrub is to remove any dead or diseased wood. Another is to shape the plant or improve the vigor and flowering display.

Because not all shrubs require the same method of pruning, knowing what a particular shrub requires is important. For example, some shrubs benefit from what is known as renewal thinning. Multi-stem shrubs, such as dogwood, fall into this category. Dogwoods should have darker, older canes removed at ground level to retain the gorgeous red or yellow branches that make this plant so interesting during the winter months. Removing canes older than about five years is recommended. It's always easier to make these low cuts early in the season before the leaves have formed and obscured the trunks.

Lilacs and snowballs should also have some of the older, thicker canes removed at ground level to promote new vigorous sprouts. Otherwise, you will eventually end up with a clump of bare stems, with a fringe of green foliage at the top that produces few flowers. The older canes of lilacs can become susceptible to Lilac Ash Borers, so removing the canes is wise. If you want these shrubs to have a sheared, or more manicured appearance, prune the outer branches right after they flower. Because the flower buds for next year will develop shortly after they have flowered, you will cut off the next season's flowers if you delay this type of pruning.

Forsythia and honeysuckle should have dead canes or those that are 1 1/2 inches in diameter or larger, removed at ground level. Forsythia can be occasionally

sheared with hedge trimmers to keep them from having a wild, spindly appearance and keep them bushier. If aphids have attacked your honeysuckle, the outer tips may be deformed and curled. These can be pruned off after the shrub has bloomed, and as needed throughout the growing season.

Potentilla, Russian sage, and blue mist spirea can be pruned in the early spring to remove last year's old flowers. This will also encourage new growth, heavier flowering, and give the plant a more manicured appearance. I know it sounds harsh, but Russian sage and blue mist spirea will benefit from being pruned to about 6 inches to a foot above the ground. Potentilla should also be pruned low to the ground in the spring, but how low will depend on the variety you have.

Pyracantha is a large shrub that is frequently planted in an area that is too small to accommodate its mature size, which is sad. This thorny shrub will look best with little or no pruning. Pruning to shape it a bit is all that is usually necessary. However, if you need to prune it, it's best to do it right after the plant has bloomed. Keep in mind that shearing it will reduce or eliminate the beautiful berries; which I think defeats the purpose of planting it.

Spring flowering shrubs, such as Mockorange, Flowering Almonds, Daphne, and Cistena plum, should not be pruned until after flowering to avoid cutting off the flower buds. Mockorange should have no growth older than about five years to keep them thick and full.

Cotoneaster, ninebark and euonymus also need little if any pruning. Removal of dead and weak growth or an occasional pruning to direct the growth away from a building is really all that is required for these shrubs. They can also be sheared as a hedge if desired. However, Cotoneasters are available in many shapes and sizes so some will not be suitable for use as a hedge.

Viburnum is a species of terrific shrubs that need very little pruning if the plant fits the location that it's in. Removal of dead or weak growth is all that should be needed.

Some species such as butterfly bush (buddleia) have different pruning needs

within their own families. Alternating Leaf Buddleia produce flowers on last summer's growth. Most, however, benefit from having all of the branches pruned to within about a foot above the ground. Spent flowers can be removed throughout the summer. Some people use a hedge trimmer when removing the flowers after they bloom.

If you find yourself shearing a shrub year after year in an attempt to make it fit into its location, it may be time to think

about removing the shrub and replacing it with a plant that is more suitable for the site. You might be surprised by the many choices available.

Take your time when pruning, and enjoy the experience. Pruning could be as rejuvenating for you as it is for your shrubs.

Linda Corwine McIntosh is a licensed commercial pesticide applicator, certified ISA arborist and advanced Colorado master gardener.



Older discolored bark is being removed from this Dogwood shrub to be it back to its former beauty with colorful branches. (Linda Corwine McIntosh/Special to the Montrose Daily Press)

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