



TALE WATERS

A Monthly Publication of

Mesilla Valley Flyfishers, Inc.

P.O. Box 2222

Las Cruces, NM 88004-2222

www.MVFF.org

November

2017



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Tale Waters Edited by Jim Hulsey — newsletter@mvff.org

Membership Meeting

Monday, 13 November

The MVFF general membership meeting will meet on Monday 13 November at 7:00pm in the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. Dominique Lujan will describe her experiences working (and fishing) with salmonids in Yellowstone National Park this past summer. Please join us for an interesting and informative presentation!

Doors will open at 6:30pm and cookies and coffee will be served.

Executive Board Meeting

Monday, 20 November

The MVFF Executive Board will meet on Monday 20 November at 7:00pm in the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. All members are welcome to attend.

Liars and Tyers

Liars and Tyers will not meet in November since it would occur the day before Thanksgiving and many of our tyers will have plans for the holiday.

President's Corner

David Carmichael



In case you haven't heard, the Rio Penasco experienced an epic blowout last month, and there are photos to prove it. In several of the past few years, October and November have been my favorite times to be on the lease waters.

The leaves are changing, there is a chill in the morning air, the deer and turkeys are active all day, and it is possible to fish to a BWO olive hatch in complete solitude if one so desires. Some years I've even celebrated Thanksgiving on the lease, enjoying a shore lunch of smoked salmon or turkey jerky, fresh apples, dried cranberries, and pumpkin bread. I hear some club members will be on the river for this Thanksgiving, and I wonder how they will find



Quieter times on the lower lease, Rio Penasco

the conditions.

On October 5th, the southern Sacramento Mountains received a large amount of rain. Although only 2 inches or so were recorded at the lease, 6 inches fell at Mayhill, and some areas in the Elk Canyon watershed received 8–9 inches. The highest rain totals were in the areas that burned a few years ago, so the runoff was massive. The gauging station below the lease at Hope registered a flood height of 14–15 feet and a flow rate of 5000 cfs, where normal flow would be 8–10 cfs. Jim Ellett said the flow was the heaviest he has ever seen on the ranch, and he reports that both bridges were torn out, including the steel beams and sheet metal. It almost goes without saying that the porta-potty was swept away too.

Photographs taken from NM 82 show that between mile markers 51 and 52, in the area of Mulcock Ranch, the floodwaters actually covered part of the highway. (Photos courtesy of Justin Powell, Camille Graham



Rio Penasco floodwaters inundating NM 82, mile 51–52

less, it is also the case that this was an unusually intense rainstorm for this late in the year. Typically our monsoon season ends in September, and even when we do experience fall rainstorms, they are generally not as intense as this one was.

Interestingly, scientists have recently reported some research that may account for such a pattern; that is, intense late season storms bringing large amounts of rain. In the October issue of the journal *Nature Climate Change*, a team of researchers from Princeton and NOAA report on their efforts to improve the climate models used to study the North American monsoon. “When they corrected for persistent sea surface temperature biases and used higher-resolution data for regional geography, [they]

created a model that accurately reflects current rainfall conditions and suggests that future changes could have significant consequences for regional wa-



“Lake Penasco,” looking south from NM 82, mile 51–52, during flood

Figuroa and Wendell Malone.) It seems pretty clear that the loss of forest cover in the burned headwaters areas contributed to the amount of runoff. Neverthe-



The same stretch of the valley after the flood receded

ter sources and hazards” (*TerraDaily*, Oct. 10, 2017).

One of the predicted future results of climate change is the overall reduction or drying out of the North American monsoon. This part of the model confirms

the idea that the Southwest will continue to become drier as global warming continues and as monsoon storm tracks shift northward. Another finding is that the monsoon season will also be delayed, or shifted later in the year. Thunderstorms are predicted to become less common, but are also expected to occur later in the year than we have become accustomed to seeing. So an occasional late-season thunderstorm of the sort that produced the recent flooding on the Penasco may be part of a general pattern of changing timing and location of storm tracks affecting the entire continent.

The MVFF board members are still considering stocking the lease in the next month, but we're waiting for reports from club members regarding water and substrate conditions before proceeding. A couple of board members are planning visits to the lease in the next few weeks, but if anyone else has observations about the conditions on the lease, please contact a board member to contribute your insights.

I am sorry to report the recent passing of Donna Mabie, wife of Norm Mabie who was one of the founding members of our club. She served on our board of directors and as club Secretary for several years. Please look for a more complete obituary elsewhere in the newsletter.

At our last board meeting, we learned that we will be losing four of our current board members. Please give some thought to donating your time and talents to the club next year by joining the board. If you contact me or any of the other board members, we'll be happy to discuss the activities and commitments involved in taking the next step towards leading the club into the future. Or, simply come and check out the action at our next board meeting on November 20.

Speaking of the future, please join us at the next meeting of the general membership on November 13, when our speaker will be Dominique Lujan who will tell us about her work with salmonids in Yellowstone National Park this past summer.

Finally, I'd like to remind everyone of the new event the club is sponsoring with Ardivino's Desert Crossing: the 2017 Fly Fishing Film Tour (F3T). The event will be on November 19th from 11 AM to 3 PM at Ardivino's restaurant in Sunland Park, NM. The ticket price is \$35 per person, including lunch, the film

showing and a ticket for the raffle for door prizes. A cash bar will also be available. The big door prize will be a new custom made Winston fly rod donated by *Carmichael Custom Fly Rods*. Additional door prizes will be donated by the new Cabela's store in west El Paso, and by Sportsman's Warehouse in Las Cruces. Both stores will have tables at the event, as will MVFF and perhaps Backcountry Hunters & Anglers. Please make plans to attend this new and exciting club event. If at all possible, please purchase tickets in advance, either online at the Fly Fishing Film Tour website (www.flyfilmtour.com/buy-tickets/) or at the MVFF club meeting on November 13, so Ardivino's can plan for the appropriate number of meals to be served. For additional information, contact me, or visit the link on our Facebook page, Ardivino's event calendar, or the F3T organization at the website shown on the accompanying event poster. If you're concerned about negotiating the highway construction in El Paso, check Ardivino's website for information on how to get there.

See the poster on page 6. ▲



Ron Bellerose
PHW Coordinator



Project Healing Waters is back on track with fly tying 2-3 times a month with 2 evening chances for Vets to tie flies; one with Counseling Las Cruces and the other with the MVFF. We have individuals from the Ft Bliss area joining us and they are ready to fish. The Las Cruces Vet Center is great for the fly tying with a larger work area and plenty of room for up to 10 Vets. I am hoping to get out fishing soon. Between Grindstone in Ruidoso, the lease when it gets back to fishable with fish and the local ponds, I hope to have a very active fall fishing season.

For more information about PHWFF see www.projecthealingwaters.org. Contact Ron Bellerose (575-680-5516), flyfishnh@hotmail.com if you wish to volunteer to help out. ▲

Club Member Donna Mabie Dies



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the death of long time Club member Donna Mabie.

Donna, 82, a long time resident of Las Cruces passed away Tuesday, October 24, 2017. Donna was born in 1935 in Dubois, Pennsylvania to Don and Bridgett Good,

and was the eldest of six children. She married Norman J. Mabie in 1953 and they came to live in New Mexico a few years later. Except for a brief 3-year military tour in Germany in the 1960s, they called Las Cruces home until their deaths.

Long time Club members will remember Norman (Norm) as one of the charter members. Norm was instrumental in founding the Club and served as its first president. After his death Donna became more active in the Club, serving on the Board and as Secretary for several terms and participating in many Club trips to the San Juan. She got a late start in flyfishing and fly tying but approached each with enthusiasm. She kept Norm's fly shop open for several years, selling tying materials and fishing permits for the Club. This was before Sportsman's Warehouse and was the only fly shop closer than Albuquerque. Don't know what we would have done without her.

We send our condolences and best wishes to her family.

Her full obituary can be seen at www.GetzCares.com



Update Your Email Address

Some email addresses in our membership database are not current or are incorrect. If you are not receiving regular emails from MVFF about Club activities that might be the reason. We do not give your address to anyone. It will only be used by the Club to send club information and reminders for Club meetings and other Club events. If you have changed internet providers or just want us to verify your address, please send your email address to membership@mvff.org. ▲

Club Outings Planned

The board is now discussing possible future outings and would welcome suggestions from members. Where do you want to go? Let them know. If you have comments or suggestions for additional trips pass them to any of the Board members.

There are no trips presently being planned. ▲

Fly Rod For Sale

Michael Reaves is selling a Horrocks Ibbotson fly rod, white diamond red. H-1. It is believed to have been made in 1940. It has stainless guides with rollers, asking \$150. If interested contact Michael at (575) 680-0996. ▲



Post-Flood Pictures of the Lease



COSTA YETI SIMMS.
PRESENT THE

**FLY FISHING
2017
FILM
TOUR**

f3t **THEF3T.COM**

SUNDAY, NOV. 19 11 AM TO 3 PM
AT ARDOVINO'S DESERT CROSSING

1 ARDOVINO DRIVE :: SUNLAND PARK, NM :: 575-589-0653 :: WWW.ARDOVINOS.COM
TICKETS: \$35 (INCLUDES BRUNCH) ADVANCE PURCHASE AT **THEF3T.COM**

Ardovino's Desert Crossing WITH AND **Cabela's** WORLD'S FOREMOST OUTFITTER



MVFF Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 16, 2017

Submitted by Jeff Arterburn, Secretary

The MVFF Board meeting was called to order by David Carmichael at 7:00pm in the NMDG&F Conference room. Board members present were: Jeff Arterburn (Secretary), David Carmichael (President), Bob Silver, Chuck Mueller, Dennis Lanpher and Will Lubenau. Board members absent were: Tom Johnson (Vice President), Gary Mann (Treasurer) and Evan Claassen. Non-Board members in attendance were: Ron Bellerose, Jim Hulsey, Ray Rodriguez and Dillon Martinez.

1. **Meeting Minutes.** The minutes from the September 18, 2017 Board meeting were approved as published in the October 2017 issue of the newsletter.
2. **Treasurer's Report.** The Treasurer's report and current account balance statement of \$12,606.95 was presented by Chuck Mueller, and accepted by the Board. The Wells Fargo account check signing authority was updated. The bank would prefer that we use an account better suited for a non-profit 501C3. Chuck will set up a meeting. Chuck Mueller has agreed to serve as the treasurer. A discussion of setting up a PayPal system for purchasing permits and memberships was revisited. Bob will obtain more information for the next meeting.
3. **Membership Report.** Bob Silver has agreed to take on the membership role. He reported 4 new members joined last month. He has been completing the transfer of, email addresses and updating a corrected list. Chuck requested the updated list of active members for use when planning club-sponsored trips. Chuck made a motion to recognize Will's and Dominique's contributions to the MVFF with Honorary memberships, the motion was seconded and approved by the board. Memberships will also be extended to the new manager at Sportsman's Warehouse, Thomas Gutierrez, and the fishing section manager.
4. **Project Healing Water.** Ron Bellerose took 2 veterans to Silver Creek, AZ for a fishing trip during the first week in October, reporting that they had a good time although there was more fishing pressure this time. He is holding fly tying sessions Oct 25th (1-3pm) at Las Cruces VA clinic, and Nov 7th at the Counseling Center Las Cruces.
5. **Gila/Rio Grande Chapter of Trout Unlimited.** Jeff Arterburn reported that a letter of support for a request by the USFS for prioritization of the Heart Bar property in the US Forest Service priority list for the FY 2019 Land and Water Conservation Fund. This is an important acquisition that would provide improved access to Sapillo Creek. The GRG-TU submitted comments and suggestions for the draft final version of the fisheries rule (19.31.4 NMAC) being proposed by the New Mexico Game and Fish Department (NMGF) for consideration by the New Mexico Game Commission. We appreciate Department's consideration of changes to the Special Trout Waters regulations, and are especially supportive of expanding regulations that provide for catch and release of native trout, or where trout may be harvested adopting reduced bag and possession limits, and special waters limiting tackle to fly and lure only. We are very supportive of the special waters catch & release designation for Rio Las Animas (Animas Creek, Sierra County), Black Canyon (Grant), and Mogollon Creek (Catron, Grant). The Willow Creek Working Group met to discuss current activities and discuss opportunities for stream restoration. The USFS is interested in having a professional assessment and comprehensive plan for stream channel restoration. The group discussed possible applications for Beaver Dam Analog structures and willow planting, including specific issues associated with working in the wilderness. The group will reconvene in November. An update was provided on the Rio Costillo/Commanche Creek RGCT restoration project. This is the largest native trout restoration in the country and the project is nearly complete, restoring approximately 120 miles of stream, 14 mountain lakes, and a 300 acre reservoir for RGCT. The Rio Costilla Park section of

Rio Costilla leased by NMDGF will not be affected, the fishing and stocking on RCLLA will continue uninterrupted. Only Comanche Creek and Rio Costilla upstream from the new fish barrier on the Valle Vidal is included in this project. The piscicide treatment planned for October 2017 has been postponed one year. Rio Costilla will be treated with piscicides in October 2018 and October 2019. This will be the final stage of this project. Fish numbers in this section of Rio Costilla (On Valle Vidal only, not RCCLA) will be near zero for one season (October 2018 to October 2019). Comanche Creek only may be treated during the summer of 2018 and restocked immediately after successful renovation (this is still in the planning phase). For more information on this project, please contact Bryan Bakevich at bryan.bakevich@state.nm.us or by phone at 505-476-8058. The Bursum Road has been reopened following completion of construction; travelers should check on current status. Ray Rodriguez reported that the North Star Mesa road to Black Canyon has been repaired.

- 6. **NMSU American Fisheries Students.** Had planned fishing trip to lease, but heavy rains have washed out. Jim Ellet said water was the highest he's ever seen during his lifetime. Bridges washed out. Will and Dillon and others will make a trip to inspect, will report at the next meeting.
- 7. **MVFF Board Members Needed.** New/replacement board members (4) are needed to help manage the club.
- 8. **Presentations:** The November 13th meeting will feature Dominique Lujan describing her experiences working (and fishing) with salmonids in Yellowstone National Park this past summer. Ron will pick up NMDGF key for Nov meeting. David has made arrangements with the F3T company for

- hosting a Fly Fishing Film Festival with the Ardivino's Crossing restaurant management. The event will take place on Sunday afternoon November 19th. The board approved allocation of funds for the cost of the film festival: \$600. Dave and Robert are discussing advertising, for local Las Cruces posting Chuck agreed to serve as the contact. David will have more info later in the week. The cost will be \$35 each entrance, and will provide a buffet lunch, dessert bar, cash bar, and a raffle ticket for a custom fly rod. The expectations are for 75-150 attendees. Ron and Jim Sorensen are planning a trip to the Green River in November, and may be able to give a presentation in December. Will discussed the Peñasco erosion situation with Chris Canavan, and he would like to take a trip to the lease for an initial assessment and could report to club for the December meeting. The banquet is set for January 28th 2018, and David has made arrangements with Carol Ann Morris, a photographer, videographer, and illustrator to give a presentation titled "Fly Fishing Photography 101". Her husband, Skip Morris, will also attend and will be selling his books, and Carol will be selling her art work. The February general meeting will feature Brad Shellanberger from Wolf Creek Anglers in Colorado.
- 9. **Rio Peñasco Lease.** The recent flood has changed the stream structure significantly and needs to be evaluated before the next fish stocking. Bill Parker has plenty of fish available.
- 10. **Kid's Fishing Clinics.** The upcoming Kid's Clinic is scheduled for March 24th 2018. A lead volunteer is needed to take over for Tom Wobbe.
- 11. The next Board meeting will be on Monday, November 20 2017 at 7:00pm. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm. ▲



Quick Look Contact Information

2017 Officers of the Club	
Officers	
• President:	David Carmichael (915) 204-7558
• V-Pres.:	Tom Johnson (417) 684-7075
• Secretary:	Jeff Arterburn (612) 720-3456
• Treasurer:	Chuck Mueller (575) 647-4045
Board Members	
• Position 1:	David Carmichael (915) 204-7558
• Position 2:	Tom Johnson (417) 684-7075
• Position 3:	Jeff Arterburn (575) 524-0773
• Position 4:	Evan Claassen (402) 239-1289
• Position 5:	Will Lubenau (575) 442-1912
• Position 6:	Chuck Mueller (575) 647-4045
• Position 7:	Bob Silver (575) 522-6325
• Position 8:	Gary Mann (575) 521-7793
• Position 9:	Dennis Lanpher (575) 649-2946
Newsletter & Web Page Editor	
• Jim Hulsey (575) 524-1880	newsletter@mvff.org
Membership Committee Chairman	
• Bob Silver (575) 522-6325	membership@mvff.org

Norm Mabie Scholarship Fund

The Norm Mabie Memorial Scholarship Fund is an endowed fund at New Mexico State University which is funded by MVFF member donations. Earnings from the fund are used to provide scholarships for students at NMSU majoring in fisheries or related fields.

The recipient of each scholarship is determined each April by the MVFF Board with the award being made for the fall semester.

Even though the fund is endowed additions can be made to it at any time. The larger the fund, the more earnings are available for award. If you are interested in contributing please make checks out to the **NMSU Foundation** and on the "for" line of the check, identify "Norm Mabie Memorial Scholarship Fund for deposit only." All contributions are tax deductible. For any questions please contact one of the Officers or Board members. If you have not made a donation to the fund please give consideration and help honor Norm.

Current Email Addresses Needed

Many of the email addresses in our files are not current as members change to other internet providers. These addresses will not be distributed, but will only be used to relay club information or reminders for club meetings and other club events. Please send your address changes to membership@mvff.org.

Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout Print

Help support the MVFF Habitat Restoration Projects and purchase a limited edition "Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout" print. This beautiful printing of an original watercolor of our native state fish is a limited series of 150 high quality 12 x 18 prints that are numbered and signed by New Mexico artist Michelle Arterburn. The cost of each individual print is \$25.00, with the proceeds dedicated towards habitat restoration projects. If you live out of town and wish the print mailed to you please add \$5 for postage. See the MVFF website for purchase.



******* REMEMBER *******
MVFF MEMBERSHIPS & NM FISHING LI-
CENSES EXPIRE ON 31 MARCH

Membership Information

Membership is open to anyone who supports the activities of the club. Membership fees are shown below. Members are provided with the opportunity to attend informational monthly meetings, purchase fishing access permits to the MVFF leased waters on the Rio Peñasco, and participate in other Club activities such as a summer picnic, annual awards banquet, casting clinics, fly tying classes, and Club sponsored fishing trips.

There are several options for the payment of dues. A family is defined as a club member, their spouse and all children 17 years of age or under.

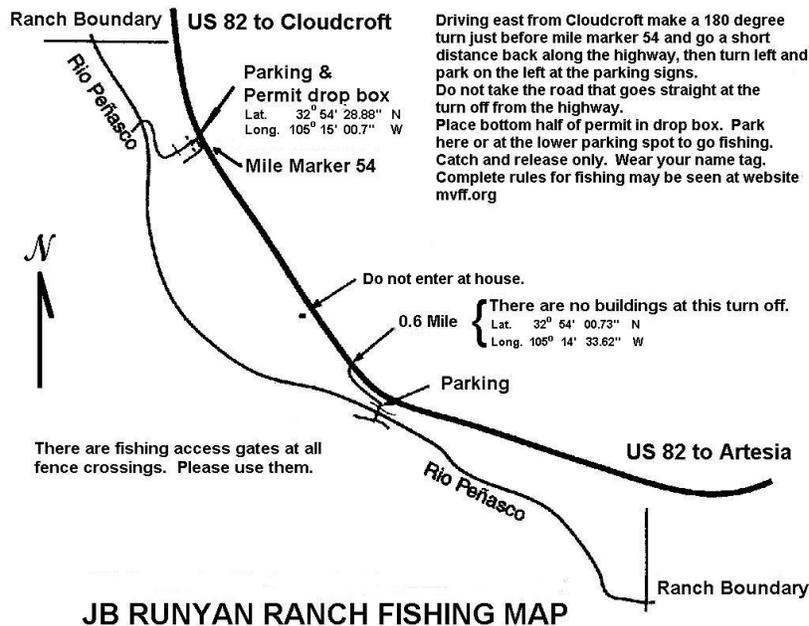
1 Year	\$20	Individual
	\$25	Family
3 Years	\$50	Individual
	\$60	Family
Life	\$400	Individual
	\$500	Family

Lease Information

Permits to fish the Club leased waters on the Rio Peñasco can be obtained from Jim Hulsey (575-524-1880), Tom Wobbe (575-522-5437) and Donna Mabie (575-522-3810) in Las Cruces. Permits can be obtained from the land owner, but you should phone (575-687-3362) the night before to ensure someone will be there to sell them to you. Permits can be ordered through the club web page (mvff.org) by filling out the form and mailing as directed. Cost is \$25.00 per day. Kids under 18 fish free but must be accompanied by an adult club member with a permit. You must be a current member (current dues have been paid) of MVFF to fish the lease. Please wear your MVFF identification badge while on the property. New or replacement badges can be obtained by contacting Jim Hulsey. In addition, members can purchase a one-day, one-time permit for guests.

Directions to the Lease:

Follow NM 82 east from Cloudcroft, NM or west from Artesia, NM. The turn off to the lease is located on the right side of the road about 100 yards before mile marker 54 coming from Cloudcroft or 100 yards on the left past mile marker 54 coming from Artesia.



MESILLA VALLEY FLYFISHERS, INC.

PO Box 2222

Las Cruces, NM 88004-2222

Membership and/or Permit Application

(Please Print Clearly)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Work/Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____ email: _____

Are you a current member? _____ Yes _____ No

Do you need a name badge? _____ Yes _____ No

New Membership _____ or renewal _____?

Membership Categories: Individual Family Circle the one desired.

1 Year \$20 \$25

3 Years \$50 \$60

Life \$400 \$500

For family membership: Name of spouse _____ No. of children _____

Note: All memberships expire on 31 March. New memberships received on or after 1 January will expire on 31 March of the following year.

Membership fee if applicable \$_____
_____ Adult Permits @ \$25 per permit = \$_____

Total =\$_____

Send remittance with this form to the address shown at top of page.