



TALE WATERS

A Monthly Publication of
Mesilla Valley Flyfishers, Inc.

P.O. Box 2222
as Cruces, NM 88004-2222

www.MVFF.org

April

2023

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

Meetings

The next meeting of the general membership will be on Monday, April 10, at 7pm at the NMDGF facility at 2715 E. Northrise Drive, Las Cruces. Our guest speakers will be George Sanders and Brad Schuster to tell us about a trip they took to Wyoming in the fall of 2022.

The next meeting of the MVFF Board of Directors will be on April 17, at 7pm, via Zoom.

President's Corner

Bob Silver



Well, I already feel that I partially flunked as your Club President for 2023. Jim Hulsey had to remind me that I needed to write something for the Club Newsletter. I have been the Club's President before. So, I know what is expected. I am hoping my oversight is that I am just rusty. But, I already know that there is no way that I can hold a candle to the President's page that Dave Carmichael put together each month. So here goes!

At the last Board meeting, we discussed things to work on this year. I would like to focus on one thing. Getting everyone to fish more. To me that

means teaching people about fly fishing and helping people go places they might not go without some help. This year, I plan to organize several fly-fishing clinics. We can use the pond at New Mexico State for casting instruction. We can use the fishing lease for on stream clinics. I would like to organize a program where experienced fishermen will host a few beginning fishermen at the lease or at other locations. The idea would be for less experienced anglers to gain confidence fishing new locations with a fishing mentor. I will be sending every member a short questionnaire asking what you would like the Club to do. Any and all ideas are certainly welcome.

Chuck Mueller was a great travel coordinator for the Club. He organized many successful trips. Dave Brown is going to tip his toe into that role with help from all of us. To "wet" your appetite, get the pun, the next MVFF meeting on April 10th will be about a trip taken by George Sanders and Brad Schuster to Wyoming in the fall of 2022. Besides pictures of fish they caught, they will talk about traveling and trip planning.

Also, save the date of June 18, 2023, when we will be hosting the screening of the **2023 Fly Fishing Film Tour** (F3t). As in the past, the event will be held at Ardovino's Desert Crossing in Sunland Park, NM. A meal will be provided, and there will be a nominal charge, but the event will be a good way to get folks charged up for a summer of fishing.

Again, so many thanks to Dave for the work that he did as President. It has been a pleasure to work with him, but now he deserves some time off to fish.

Tight lines



Gila/Rio Grande Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Gila/Rio Grande Chapter (780) of Trout Unlimited



Jeff Arterburn, President

Upcoming Trout Unlimited Gila/Rio Grande Chapter Events & Activities April–May–June 2023.

April 20–23, 2023, Volunteer Habitat Restoration project

The next opportunity for volunteers to help with habitat restoration work on Little Turkey Creek at the Willow Creek Campground in the Gila National Forest is scheduled for April 20–23. The Gila has received significant moisture and has a real snow-pack for the first time in many years. This is great news, and it will be really informative for us to see how the rock structures and willow plantings we installed last November have held up through the high flows. We are planning for more willow planting and for new construction and maintenance of the rock and wood structures. Jim Brooks plans to check out conditions April 11–12 ahead of the event and we'll provide updates to volunteers who have signed up. We are hoping that the weather conditions will be comfortable for camping, but we can guarantee that you will be well fed, have great camaraderie, and your efforts will help restore this beautiful watershed for Gila trout! If you are interested in helping out, please contact both **Jeff Arterburn** <jeffglatu@aol.com>, 575–649–9729 and **Jim Brooks** <arroyodejaime@gmail.com>, 505–331–5926; to get you on the list for planning and communications.

Planning for Aldo Leopold Kids Fishing Derby at Lake Roberts June 3rd.

Discussions are ongoing with the USFS and other groups for holding the Aldo Leopold Kids Fishing Derby at Lake Roberts during the free fishing day Saturday June 3rd. Arrangements are being made to make sure that everything can be covered for this wonderful family event. It does sound like there will be Gila trout available for stocking, including some very large surplus brood stock that

would thrill anglers of all ages and reveal just how big a trophy Gila trout can grow!

Get Involved in Trout Unlimited!

TU collectively does so many things Nationally, and the numbers of dedicated staff supported by grant funding is growing rapidly, but it is the local chapters and the grass roots individuals who choose to pursue specific opportunities and really make things happen. If you would like to get more involved with our GRG–TU Chapter, there are several ways you can do that. We cover such a huge region we need the representation of local leaders to make sure we have the greatest positive impacts where they are needed. A great way to jump in is to help out with the **TU–Western Regional Meeting in Taos scheduled for May 18–21, 2023**. TU National and the New Mexico TU Council will **help to cover travel costs and meeting expenses** for active participants and especially wants to **support individuals interested in joining chapter boards and taking on leadership roles**. That's you!!! If you're interested, please contact Jeff for more info.

The TU–Western Regional Rendezvous will feature sessions on native Gila trout and Rio Grande Cutthroat trout, a field trip to the USFWS National Hatchery at Mora, and a film festival May 18th at the Taos Center for the Arts that includes films produced by NMSU Creative Media Institute Students focusing on the Gila River. We are **looking for financial support to cover the students travel and meeting expenses**. We thank those members who have already donated (!!!) and encourage you to consider helping out if you are able to contribute any \$–amount please send a check made out to GRG–Tu to my attention at 105 Pecan Drive, Las Cruces, NM 88001 and help us make this happen! You can find out about other Trout Unlimited Events happening in our area and around the country using the online TU Events Calendar: <https://www.tu.org/events/>

Contact Jeff Arterburn for more info and to sign up for the next volunteer event or be more involved in our conservation efforts: jeffglatu@aol.com.

GRG-TU Logo T-shirts to support local trout restoration and conservation efforts.



Green logo on ivory



Peanut butter logo on black

Our beautiful T-shirts with the GRG-TU logo in colors: green-on-ivory, and peanut-butter-on-black are sold as part of our fund-raising for trout restoration and conservation efforts. These are great looking, well-made shirts for a great cause at only \$20 each. Please include \$5 for shipping if you want the shirt(s) mailed. Contact Jeff Arterburn to get yours, and to sign up for the next volunteer event: <mailto:jeffgilatu@aol.com>.

If you are a current or former TU member looking to renew your membership please use the standard renewal form on the TU website: <https://gifts.tu.org/member/renew> or call 1-800-834-2419.



Don't Forget New Raffle

Don't forget about the Float Trip with Evan Claassen on the San Juan River. The Banquet prize of a one-day float trip for 2 with Guide Evan Claassen

on the San Juan River is being raffled again. We now have raffle tickets available for sale online through the Club webpage at www.mvff.org. This will work just like the Banquet raffle. Each ticket is \$5.00 or 5 for \$20.00. When you buy tickets online through PayPal they will be automatically deposited into the raffle. You can also print tickets from the webpage, fill them out, and mail them to MVFF, PO Box 2222, Las Cruces, NM 88004-2222 with your check. The deadline is May 6, 2023. You can print extra pages of tickets and they will also be sold at the meeting. The winner will be selected at the Club's General Membership meeting on May 8, 2023. You don't have to be present at the meeting to win. The trip is valid until the end of 2023.



MVFF Library

MVFF has a considerable library which is now in the custody of Club member Mark Dankel. Mark would like to make these books available to members. If you wish to borrow any of these books let Mark know and he will bring them to the next membership meeting. Mark can be contacted at mpdankel@msn.com.

A list of the books can be found in the November 2019 issue of *Tale Waters*.



MVFF Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, March 20, 2023

Submitted by Jeff Arterburn

The MVFF was called to order by Bob Silver at 7:07pm, via Zoom. Board members present were Robert Ardovino, Jeff Arterburn, David Brown, Jim Hulsey, Chuck Mueller and Helen Zagona. Not present: Jeremiah Blount, David Carmichael, Robert Koczyk and George Sanders.

1. **Approval of minutes.** The minutes from the Board meeting held February 20, 2022, were approved as published in the March newsletter.
2. **Treasurer's Report.** Chuck Mueller presented the Treasurer's report. The current available balance of club accounts is \$9,412.20. The report was accepted as presented.
3. **Membership.** Members are reminded that MVFF membership renewals are due April 1st, coinciding with NMDGF Fishing licenses. Bob will be updating the list and sending email reminders.
4. **Gila/Rio Grande Chapter of Trout Unlimited.** Jeff Arterburn reported that the Spring 2023 Volunteer Habitat Restoration project at Willow Creek in the Gila National Forest has been rescheduled for April 21–23, with participants arriving on Thursday and full workdays scheduled Friday and Saturday, departing on Sunday afternoon. Jeff reported that the NM-TU State Council will be providing some funding to help cover expenses for attendance at the TU Western Regional Meeting scheduled for May 18–21, 2023, in Taos, NM, prioritizing those TU members who are interested in getting more involved in Chapter leadership roles. Jeff reported ongoing discussions with USFS and other groups for holding the Aldo Leopold Kids Fishing Derby at Lake Roberts during the free fishing day June 3rd.
5. **Old Business.**
 - A Guided float trip on the San Juan with Evan Claassen will be raffled. Jim Hulsey has produced new raffle tickets online at www.mvff.org. Chuck has volunteered to deposit the tickets purchased online in the raffle drum. This will work just like the Banquet raffle. Each ticket is \$5.00 or 5 for \$20.00. Tickets with checks mailed to the Club's PO Box will also be put into the raffle drum. The deadline is May 6, 2023. The raffle will be held at the May Regular Club meeting.
- Bob Silver has accepted the Presidency for 2023, Jeremiah Blount will be Vice President, and Chuck Mueller will continue as Treasurer. Robert Koczyk had expressed interest in serving as Secretary but sent an email prior to the meeting withdrawing due to personal reasons, so Jeff will continue in this role. Dave Carmichael has done an outstanding job as President the past 7 years; it is time to give him our thanks and a break, and Bob hopes he can come close to being as good in this role.
- There were no updates on planning for the on-stream introduction to fly fishing outing for the NMSU Fisheries & Wildlife students, the Outdoor Expo set for Saturday October 7th at Leasburg State Park, or the re-organization of a Project Healing Waters program. Members who have interests in these activities are encouraged to step up and get involved.
6. **New Business:**
 - The board discussed the value of polling the membership for their interests to identify what they want to get from the club. The board discussed offering an incentive for members who complete the survey to earn a raffle ticket. Dave Brown identified his primary interests in going fishing with others and learning about local spots and other areas. The

board discussed the possibility of re-starting the fishing-mentors program that had previously been active, and re-newing interest in fishing at the Rio Pe-ñasco lease, which is one of the clubs greatest assets. The board discussed past experiences in organizing club fishing trips, with Chuck talking about previous trips to the Bighorn in MT and Grey Reef in WY, and Helen discussed trips the Lady Anglers took locally and to rivers around the Southwest including the Arkansas, Conejos, Gunnison, Taylor, etc. and emphasized the value of engaging local guides. The April meeting will feature George Sanders with a presentation on recent self-guided trips to WY, Argentina, etc. The club will encourage efforts to organize more trips this year and will rely on individuals with experience to assist with the organiza-tion.

- The board discussed possible dates for showing the F3T Fly Fishing Film Tour and selected Sunday Afternoon on Fa-ther's Day at Ardivino's Desert Crossing Restaurant.

- Future club meetings were discussed with plans underway for the April 10th meeting featuring George Sanders and Brad Shuster discussing their Fall 2022 Wyoming trip and other self-guided trips. The May 8th meeting will feature Terry Arrington from Williams Creek An-glers and the Running Rivers program in Pagosa Springs, CO, and Kevin Terry the southwestern director of the Western Water and Habitat program of Trout Un-limited
- The board discussed the lease and agreed to allocate \$1,800 for stocking. Bob will contact Bill Parker to determine availability and scheduling. Bob dis-cussed previous plans for habitat resto-ration work that were halted due to equipment problems, and he is inter-ested in resuming plans with Jim but recognizes that small projects provide only temporary benefits due to instabil-ity and the scale of the problems in the watershed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27pm.



Quick Look Contact Information

2023 Officers of the Club		
Officers		
• President:	Bob Silver	(575) 642-5865
• V-Pres.:	Jeremiah Blount	
• Secretary:	Jeff Arterburn	(575) 649-9729
• Treasurer:	Chuck Mueller	(575) 647-4045
Board Members		
• Position 1:	Dave Brown	
• Position 2:	Helen Zagona	(575) 532-5668
• Position 3:	Jeff Arterburn	(575) 649-9729
• Position 4:	Jim Hulsey	(575) 635-5381
• Position 5:	Robert Ardovino	(575) 589-0653
• Position 6:	Chuck Mueller	(575) 647-4045
• Position 7:	George Sanders	(575) 527-5536
• Position 8:	Jeremiah Blount	
• Position 9	Robert Kopczyk	
Newsletter & Web Page Editor		
•	Jim Hulsey (575) 635-5381	newsletter@mvff.org
Membership Committee Chairman		
•	Bob Silver (575) 642-5865	membership@mvff.org

Mabie Legacy Scholarship Fund

The Mabie Legacy 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 scholarship recipient is selected each April by the faculty members of the NMSU Department of Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Ecology.

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 "Mabie Legacy Scholarship Fund, for deposit only." All contributions are tax deductible. For any questions please contact one of the MVFF Officers or Board members. If you have not donated to the fund please give it consideration and help honor Norm and Donna Mabie.

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 LICENSES 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, to purchase fishing access permits to the MVFF leased waters on the Rio Peñasco and to participate in other Club activities such as an 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.

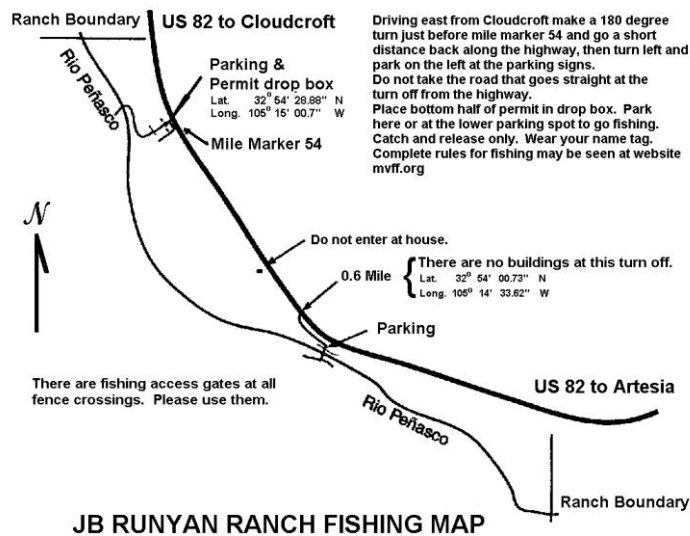
1 Year	\$20	Individual
	\$25	Family
3 Years	\$50	Individual
	\$60	Family
Life	\$400	Individual
	\$500	Family

Lease Information

Permits to fish the Club leased waters on the Rio Peñasco can be obtained from Jim Hulsey (575-635-5381) or Bob Silver (575-522-6325) 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 or, if you had rather, you may pay through PayPal (preferred method). 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 Bob Silver. In addition, members may purchase 1-day, 1-time permits for up to 2 guests per trip. Each guest must have a permit. One-time means a person can go as a guest one time only and must be a member to ever go again. If you do not place a signed/dated permit in the proper receptacle before fishing, then you have not agreed to the terms stipulated on the permit and will be trespassing on private property.

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.