



TALE WATERS

A Monthly Publication of
Mesilla Valley Flyfishers, Inc.

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

www.MVFF.org

November

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, November 13th, at 7pm at the NMDGF facility at 2715 E. Northrise Drive, Las Cruces. Dave Carmichael will give a presentation of his trip to the Yakima River in Washington State this summer. Check the President's Corner for additional details.

The next meeting of the MVFF Board of Directors will be on November 20th, at 7pm, via Zoom.

President's Corner

Bob Silver



The next Club meeting will be Monday, November 13th. Dave Carmichael will give a presentation of his trip to the Yakima River in Washington State this summer. Dave's presentation to the Club will be the first ever about this river. This is a river that I have only seen from the road on a recent business trip. I am looking forward to hearing about it from Dave.

Speaking of trips, currently, there is a group from the MVFF on the San Juan and one group just got back. What a spectacular time of the year to fish the San Juan. Great weather and great company.

Speaking of trips, currently, there is a group from the MVFF on the San Juan and one group just got back. What a spectacular time of the year to fish the San Juan. Great weather and great company.

Thanks to Dave Brown and Chuck Mueller for organizing these trips.

The end of the year is coming up. It is customary that we hold our annual Banquet. Preparations are beginning. I need some input from the membership about the best date to have the Banquet. To avoid NMSU sport schedules it will be held on a Friday night. I have chosen 3 dates and I need you to pick a date that suits your preference. **The dates are January 19th, January 26th or February 9th. Please email date you prefer to the following address Board@mvff.org** The Banquet will be held at St. Paul's Methodist Church in Las Cruces. Instead of an out-of-town speaker, we will show the videos of the F3T Fly Fishing Film Tour. These are some of the best fly fishing films in the world produced to inspire, encourage and support conservation efforts worldwide. The Banquet will include BBQ dinner from Sparky's and enchiladas from Cha Chi's along with a raffle & door prizes, as well.

The Board has approved stocking the lease with \$1,000 worth of trout. Stocking will take place as soon as arrangements are made with Bill Parker. Stay-in-the loop, watch your email for the stocking date and time. Volunteers are always welcome to bucket the fish to the river. The Club will give out permits for the effort.

Jeff Arterburn and I have been busy giving fly fishing lessons to the Fishery Society students at NMSU and Chuck Mueller and I were asked to tie flies at a recent Cub Scout Camporee at Ft Seldon State Park. That has been fun to do and observe them take an interest in something so avantgarde as fishing with thread and feathers tied to a hook. Hopefully they will continue picking up the sport. They are the future of fly fishing here in NM.



Gila/Rio Grande Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Gila/Rio Grande Chapter (780) of Trout Unlimited



Jeff Arterburn, President

GRG-TU for MVFF November-2023

Successful Habitat Restoration project completed November 3-4-5

November 3-4-5

We just wrapped up a very successful volunteer habitat restoration project on Little Turkey Creek at the Willow Creek Campground in the Gila National Forest last weekend. The weather was beautiful this year with clear skies and crisp mornings in the 20's that rapidly warmed up for shirtsleeve workdays.

We had a mix of volunteers that included veterans from past events and new participants representing a wide range of ages and coming from many different walks of life that made for a really great crew! Several of the NMSU students who had planned to come up came down sick and only Cass and Lela were able to join us, but they were a great help. Our new TU Staff Gila trout Project Manager, Eric Head, had coordinated with Dr. Amanda Jost from Western New Mexico University and she brought up a great group of WNMU students for the day on Saturday.

They were real troopers and together we transformed a section of a stream bend that had severely impacted banks and was dumping large amounts of sediments into the stream. Bank slopes were restored using willow bundle plantings that will stabilize the bank as the willows take hold, on top of the installation of rock structures and a lot of shovel work blocking a head cut that had been completed the week before. Everyone who worked on this section was optimistic that someday soon it will earn the nickname we've given it: Trout Bend! The other work crews worked both days on the upper section installing new rock structures and repairs, stabilizing eroding stream banks, and planting an extensive array

of new willow poles, with each set placed in hopes of a wet winter and healthy start to new growth next spring.

A veteran retired NMDGF Ranger who was very familiar with the watershed but hadn't been on the ground since before our work had begun last year, shared his enthusiastic observations, after riding through our work sections on Saturday, that the stream is now looking much better in response to our work!

We were all fed by an outstanding camp cook, Nick Smith, with hot breakfasts and delicious meals including posole, yellowtail tuna steaks, and homemade tamales along with all the fixings. We had great camaraderie and conversations around the campfire. It is awesome to see the scope of work that was completed, with everyone contributing their individual efforts so that the outcome was much more than the sum of the parts! Now it's time to hope for a good winter to set us up for the Spring 2024 work schedule.

If you are interested in joining us to help restore this beautiful watershed and other projects for Gila trout please reach out to one of us and we will add you to the list for planning and communications:

- James E. Brooks, JEB Outfitters LLC Back-country Stream Restoration and Monitoring arroyodejaime@gmail.com
- Eric Head, Gila Trout Project Manager eric.head@tu.org
- Jeff Arterburn, Gila/Rio Grande Chapter (780) of Trout Unlimited jeffgilatu@aol.com

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.

Please consider joining the board for our chapter boards and getting involved in leadership roles. If

you're interested, please contact Jeff for more info.

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/>

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 Arter

burn 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.



Fly Fishing Equipment for Sale

Luis Vargas is selling 5 rods and reels in carrying cases. 8'6" to 7'6" 7 to 2 wt. Also a Sea Eagle 285 frameless pontoon boat along with other FF accessories. Luis is located in west El Paso, 915 581 2573.



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, October 23, 2023

Submitted by Bob Silver

The Board meeting was called to order by Bob Silver at 7:05pm, via Zoom. Board members present were George Sanders, Jeremiah Blount, Jim Hulsey, Chuck Mueller, and Bob Silver. Not present: Helen Zagona, Robert Ardivino, Jeff Arterburn and David Brown.

1. **Approval of minutes.** The minutes from the Board meeting held September 18, 2023 were approved as published in the October newsletter.
2. **Treasurer's Report.** Chuck Mueller presented the Treasurer's report. Discussion was held about the three unsold places on the second San Juan trip. The Board approved payment of \$350 that will cover the shortfall. The current available balance of club accounts is \$8,277.84. The report was accepted as presented.
3. **Membership.** Bob Silver reported that 10 new members joined in October.
4. **Gila/Rio Grande Chapter of Trout Unlimited** A variety of representatives from State and Federal agencies and other conservation and outdoor recreation groups met on Friday Sept. 22nd for a field day trip to Black Canyon to survey the fire damage and discuss plans for restoration efforts. TU volunteers gathered at the Willow Creek Campground in the Gila National Forest on November 3-5 for more habitat restoration work on Little Turkey Creek. They also are planning more willow planting and for new construction and maintenance of the rock and wood structures.
5. **Old Business:**
6. **New Business.** The Board approved spending \$1,000 to stock Rainbow trout at the lease. Bob Silver will make arrangements with Bill Parker. The Board approved the annual Banquet this year. A suggestion was made to poll the membership for the preferred date. Three Fridays were selected in January and February to avoid conflicts with any NMSU sporting events.

The next MVFF Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday November 13th.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56pm.



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	(915) 206-0626
• Position 2:	Helen Zagona	(575) 532-5668
• Position 3:	Jeff Arterburn	(575) 649-9729
• Position 4:	Bob Silver	(575) 642-5865
• 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 Koczzyk	
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.

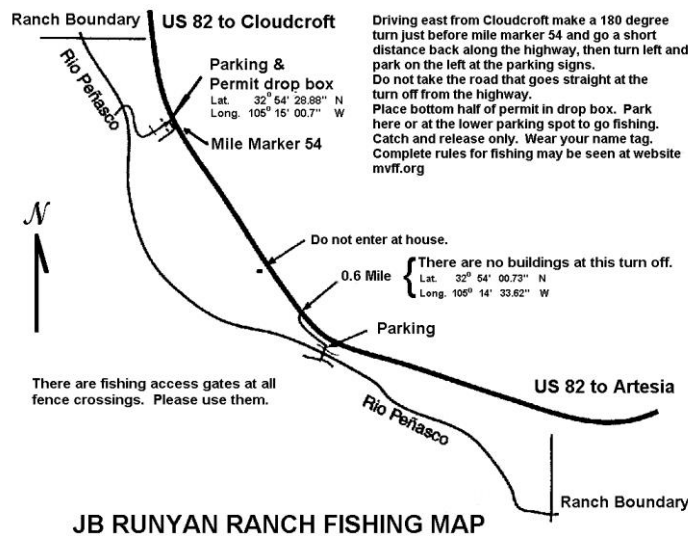
1 Year	\$20	Individual
	\$25	Family
3 Years	\$50	Individual
	\$60	Family
Life	\$400	Individual
	\$500	Family

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.