



TALE WATERS

A Monthly Publication of
Mesilla Valley Flyfishers, Inc.

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

www.MVFF.org

March

2024

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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, March 11th, at 7pm at the NMDGF facility at 2715 E. Northrise Drive, Las Cruces. We will also open the meeting to remote viewing on Zoom.

The next meeting of the MVFF Board of Directors will be on March 11th, 2023, at 7pm, via Zoom.

President's Corner

Bob Silver



The next Club meeting will be Monday, March 11th. It will be held at the NM Game and Fish Office, 2715 Northrise Drive, Las Cruces, NM 88011.

We thought we would try something different for a Club meeting. On Saturday April 6, 2024, the Club is hosting a "**bring a new person**" picnic and fishing tutorial at the lease on the Rio Peñasco. The idea is to further everyone's fishing skills and introduce a friend to the Club and the sport of fly fishing. The Club will provide food and drinks and fishing equipment. We will discuss the Picnic more fully at next Monday's Club meeting.

As you probably remember our goal from last year is to help more members to get out to fish more.

So far, we have had two trips to the San Juan last November 2023. By all accounts the trips were very successful. Evan Claassen is a member of this club and one of the finer guides you will ever meet. With his help everyone had a great time and caught fish. Since those trips worked well, Dave Brown, Chuck Mueller and Evan Claassen have been putting together three new trips for 2024. There are two trips to the San Juan in the spring and fall. The third trip is to Upper Rio Grande near South Fork, CO in July. Dave and Evan will be presenting details to these trips. Evan guides in these places. At the Club meeting, Dave and Evan will be talking about the details at the meeting on the 11th. Evan will be calling in Zoom and we will be sending the ZOOM meeting invite to all members as well.

Dave Lucoski has accepted the position of MVFF Treasurer. Chuck Mueller has been the Club's Treasurer for more years that we can remember. close to ten years, at least. Chuck helped modernize our ability to accept electronic payment for permits and dues, as well as payments for trips. I want to thank both Dave and Chuck for their service.

Helen Zagona's term on the MVFF Board expired and I am looking for someone who would like to serve on the Board. The Board meets via Zoom every third Monday of the month at 7 PM and the meetings adjourn by 8:30PM. Because we meet using Zoom, you can live anywhere and still participate. The members of the Board help to direct the achievements of the Club. The term is for 12 months until December 2024.

Bob



Gila/Rio Grande Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Gila/Rio Grande Chapter (780) of Trout Unlimited



Jeff Arterburn, President

GRG-TU for MVFF March-2024

There will be a lot of TU-related events happening this year. Numerous events will be held in recognition of the **100th Anniversary of the Gila Wilderness 2024** so stay tuned for more details. Kids fishing derbies are great events to participate in and planning is underway for the Aldo Leopold Kid's Fishing Derby at Lake Roberts, and also the Smoky Bear Ranger District will be organizing the Kids Derby at Grindstone Reservoir for the free fishing Saturday in June. We are hoping to help out by organizing river/lake trash clean-up projects so please let us know if you would like to get involved in those.

The AZ-TU Annual Native & Wild Trout Meeting in Phoenix, AZ is scheduled for April 11, 2024. The TU Western Regional Rendezvous meeting will be held in Idaho Falls, Idaho – May 17-19, 2024.

Don't forget that TU is offering an **introductory ½ price deal (\$17.50) for new TU members** to join so take a look at the flyer printed in this MVFF newsletter and pass it on to anyone you think might be interested in joining TU. This membership is a great gift anytime and all memberships help support important conservation work and come with the high quality "TROUT" Magazine and its great stories, news, and photos.

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 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. 

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, February 19, 2024

Submitted by Jeff Arterburn

The Board meeting was called to order via Zoom by Bob Silver at 7:08pm. Board members present were Jeff Arterburn, David Brown, Dave Lucoski,

Chuck Mueller, George Sanders and Bob Silver. Not present: Robert Ardovino, Jeremiah Blount and Jim Hulsey.

1. **Approval of minutes:** The minutes from the Board meeting held January 15, 2024, were accepted as published in the February newsletter.
2. **Treasurer's Report:** A motion to appoint Dave Lucoski to the MVFF Board of Directors was made and approved unanimously. Dave agreed to serve as the Treasurer. Chuck will initiate this transition and provide the training and documents needed for Dave to perform this role. Chuck, Dave and Bob will meet at the Wells Fargo Bank located at 425 S Telshor Blvd, Las Cruces, NM, 88011 on Friday Feb 22, 2024 to complete the paperwork and signature authority. Chuck will step down but will help Dave renew the club's certificate of incorporation in May. Chuck Mueller presented the Treasurer's report noting the current available balance of club accounts is \$6,816.34. The report was accepted as presented. Bob has additional revenue from memberships and permits that will be added.
3. **Membership:** Bob sent out 76 emails to long-expired memberships (2019), and will repeat to update those with expiration dates from 2020-23, keeping track of all addresses ~402 on the listserve.
4. **Gila/Rio Grande Chapter of Trout Unlimited:** Jeff summarized recent information on the developing Trout in the Classroom (TIC) programs provided by Pat Lamb in Ruidoso and Eric Head's efforts to obtain authorization for Gila trout eggs for the Stout Elementary School in Silver City. The plan for a Spring 2024 Volunteer Work Project in early April is being canceled and will be rescheduled for May 3-4, arriving the evening of 2 May 2nd and leaving after breakfast on May 5th. Dinner will be provided on the 2nd, all meals covered on work days. TU and MVFF Volunteers are needed to help out with other events including the June 1st Aldo Leopold Kids' Fishing Derby at Lake Roberts, and the Kids Fishing Derby at Grindstone Reservoir. We are also hoping to help out by organizing river/lake trash clean-up projects.
5. **Old Business:** Chuck provided a summary of

the expenses associated with the banquet, and considering the attendance the average cost was ~\$45/person attending. The amount of food provided would have covered a larger group, and with increases in attendance the "ideal costs" of ~\$25 could be achieved. The Board discussed possible contributing factors for attendance but did not identify any specific strategies for increasing numbers. Bob suggested that increased participation in activities through the year may be the best route for increasing banquet attendance.

6. **New Business:**

- Bob reported that the owners of the Mayhill Trailer have changed plans so that will not be immediately available for rental, however, they are planning construction of a Casita that will be open for rentals. More details will be provided when they are available.
- The old and new MVFF logo's were discussed with regards to obtaining embroidered hats, patches, decals, license plates etc. Bob will discuss the logo designed by Dave Carmichael with him and with Chuck will evaluate options for printing new products.
- David Brown discussed plans for fishing trips for 2024: two San Juan trips are planned May 6-10; and September 30 – October 4; a trip to South Fork CO is planned for July 8-12. Dave has started sign-up lists and is working on the selection of housing options and guiding arrangements with Evan Claassen.
- The planned speaker for the March meeting will be professional fly fishing guide Evan Claassen, most likely by zoom. Bob will contact Robert about possibly presenting at the April meeting. Bob may present on his Tarpon fishing experience in May.

7. The next MVFF Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday March 18, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41.



Quick Look Contact Information

2024 Officers of the Club		
Officers		
• President:	Bob Silver	(575) 642-5865
• V-Pres.:	Jeremiah Blount	
• Secretary:	Jeff Arterburn	(575) 649-9729
• Treasurer:	David Lucoski`	
Board Members		
• Position 1:	Dave Brown `	(915) 206-0626
• Position 2:	David Lucoski`	
• 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	Jim Hulsey	(575) 635-5381m
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.

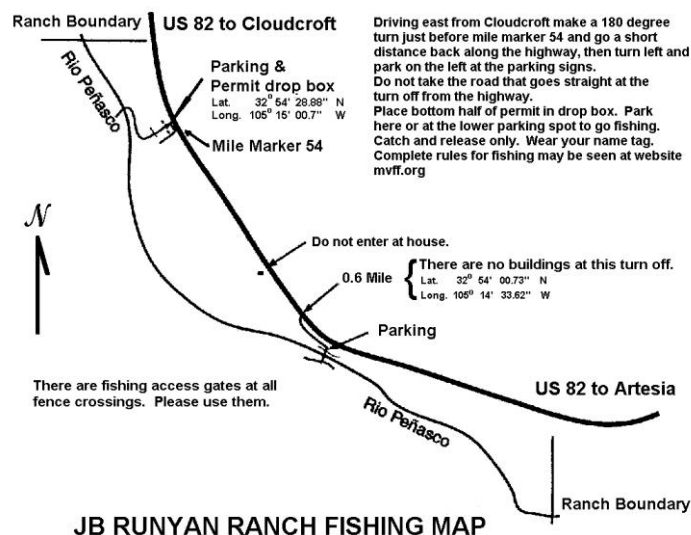
1 Year	\$20	Individual
	\$25	Family
3 Years	\$50	Individual
	\$60	Family
Life	\$400	Individual
	\$500	Family

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.