



TALE WATERS

A Monthly Publication of

Mesilla Valley Flyfishers, Inc.

P.O. Box 2222

Las Cruces, NM 88004-2222

www.MVFF.org

April

2014



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Membership Meeting

Monday, 14 April

The MVFF general membership meeting will meet on Monday 14 April at 7:00pm in the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. The special speaker will be Jeff Powell, project leader at Mora National Fish Hatchery. Jeff will speak on the various projects ongoing at the hatchery to support the reintroduction of the Gila trout. Additional biographical data for Jeff is included later in this newsletter.

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

Executive Board Meeting

Monday, 21 April

The MVFF Executive Board will meet on Monday 21 April at 7:00pm at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. All members are welcome to attend.

Liars and Tyers

Wednesday, 23 April

Liars and Tyers will meet on Wednesday 23 April at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room starting at 7:00pm. The fly to be tied has not been

determined but will be posted on the web page. The tying session will be led by professional tyer, Tim Mack. Don't miss out. Extra vises and supplies will be available for beginning tyers.

President's Corner



The New Mexico Trout Conclave was held in Albuquerque on March 22. The featured speakers were Ed Engle and Tom Knopick. Ed has retired from guiding to spend more time writing and

speaking. He has a new fly fishing blog on his website, edengleflyfishing.com. Tom is one of the owners of Duranglers Fly Shop in Durango. His presentations included a description of the waters where they guide in Southwestern Colorado and a great explanation of the factors that determine how much water is released from the Navajo Reservoir. In a nutshell, there are two endangered species, the Razorback Sucker and the Pikeminnow, in the San Juan River in Arizona. Federal authorities are trying to keep the flow in the San Juan in Arizona at a minimum of 550 cfs. So, depending on the flow from the Animas River and other tributaries, they adjust the flow out of the San Juan reservoir to try to maintain that minimum. Because of the prolonged drought, they are also trying to accumulate water in order to meet the annual allotment of 370,000 acre feet owed to the Navajo Nation, as well as that owed to other water rights owners. In short, don't expect the flow in the San Juan Special Trout Waters to increase much above the current 260 cfs level in the near future.

Van Beacham and Bob Widgren have set the dates for their fly fishing school at the Trinchera Ranch near Ft. Morgan, CO for July 25-27. They hope to have a second class in August, but the exact dates haven't been set. Class size is limited, so if you are interested, check it out at thesolitaryangler.com.

Lots of volunteer opportunities are available in early April:

- **April 2**—Project Healing Waters fly tying and casting clinics at NMDGF class room and NMSU Alumni Pond;
- **April 5**—Kid's Fishing Day at NMSU Alumni Pond;
- **April 9**—PHW trip to the Lease;
- **April 12**—NMSU student chapter of the American Fisheries Society trip to the Lease.

For specific times and places, look for Tom Wobbe's email, check the Club's website or email me at President@MVFF.org. April is also the time to renew fishing licenses and club dues.

Note that the campsite for the July club trip to the Conejos has been changed to the Mogote Campground.

Tight Lines,

Jim



Ron Bellerose

PHW Coordinator



Project Healing Waters is on the move. New local Vets are on a slight increase. We have about 10 active PHW local Vets and

several are club members. We have 4 Vets building rods that will be sent into Hook & Hackle for evaluation and then returned to the Vet for them to keep. A free fly rod that the Vet built. Hook & Hackle supports PHW and donates the fly rod blanks and components for the Vets. For any fly fishing, fly tying items you might want or need please consider looking at Hook & Hackle. Call your order in and let them know you are a Veteran or you volunteer for PHW and get a 20% discount.

Wednesday, April 2nd we will have the Ft. Bliss group tying flies at the NMG&F conference room in the morning and casting at the NMSU pond in the afternoon. Lunch will be served. Looking for 8-10 volunteers for this event. I expect around 20 soldiers. On Wednesday April 9th we will be fishing with the soldiers at the lease. I need all the volunteers I can get for this event. This is a great event and Jim Ellett donates the free fishing for the

soldiers and the CowBelles provide the lunch/dinner for them. Their contributions are greatly appreciated.

On Friday May 9th I will be fly tying at Ft. Bliss with the Wounded Warrior Transition Battalion. We will have no more than 10 Wounded Warriors that are really interested in fly fishing and on Saturday May 10th we will take them to the lease for fishing. I will be looking for a couple of volunteers for the fly tying and 10 volunteers for the fishing on Saturday May 10th would be great. Also planning on the same type of events with this group on 13-14 June. Working with smaller groups will be better for us. Permits will be required for them that will be purchased by PHW.

Also planning a fly tying/fishing event with the Wounded Warriors in connection with the Cloudcroft VFW in May. This is a request from the VFW. More info on this will be provided later.

Once again thanks to all my volunteers. Without the MVFF volunteers this would not be possible. We also have hats, pins and flies for sale to provide funding for San Juan trips for the disabled Vets.

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.

Bio for Jeff Powell

Jeff Powell has served for 3 years as the project leader at Mora National Fish Hatchery. Under his direction, Mora NFH has expanded to include all the genetic representations for the Gila trout species. The Main Diamond and South Diamond Gila trout lineages have historically been reared at the facility and now the addition of Spruce Creek, Whiskey Creek and Iron Creek have been added. Gila trout survival rates have dramatically improved at the facility and emphasis on Naturalistic Rearing and Poly-Culture has become the focus of the program. Mora NFH strives to produce quality fish that are genetically appropriate and well prepared for the rigors of the wild.

Previously he spent 7 years at Gavins Point National Fish hatchery, serving different roles: acting project leader, assistant project leader and fish biologist. The focus at Gavins Point NFH was pallid sturgeon, paddle fish and 8 different species of cool and warm water fish. He has also worked at Bozeman Fish Technology Center and Miles City State Fish Hatchery,

in Montana. Jeff holds a Bachelor Degree in Fish and Wildlife Management from Montana State University and is currently working towards a Master degree in Public Administration from San Diego State University, in California.

NMSU American Fisheries Society Student Flyfishing Trip to the Lease

Saturday, 12 April

The Club will conduct a flyfishing trip to the Lease for the student chapter of NMSU American Fisheries Soc. on Saturday, April 12. Fifteen students have signed up so far so we will need a few MVFF volunteers to help those that have never flyfished get started.

Mark your calendar.

Lady Anglers Update

The MVFF Lady Anglers drove through rain, snow, sleet and fog to get to the Rio Peñasco for a day of spring fishing at the club lease on Saturday, March 15, 2014. Nine anglers made the trip and fished all day with a break for a delicious picnic lunch with Jim and Earline Ellett on their front lawn. Alex Montes provided casting instruction and the fishing was pretty decent in spite of the wind. The Prince Nymph "rocked" in the words of one angler and yielded the best results in the lease waters. Plans are in the works for our fall fishing trip so stay tuned.



Casting For Recovery

Casting for Recovery (CFR) is a national, non-profit program that provides an opportunity for women who

have experienced breast cancer to learn to fly fish. During a weekend retreat, women learn to fish in a natural setting where instruction, food and lodging and equipment are provided at no cost. The next CFR program for southern Colorado, New Mexico and west Texas will be held on October 3-5, 2014, at the Philmont Scout Ranch near Cimarron, NM. Participants will stay at the Villa Philmonte complex and will fish the private waters of the ranch. Participants will learn the fundamentals of casting, entomology, knot-tying and equipment basics and will spend time on the water practicing catch-and-release fishing. CFR is looking for participants from southern NM and west Texas for the 2014 program. Participants are selected at random from all eligible applicants and the deadline for receipt of applications is July 25, 2014. For more information visit www.castingforrecovery.org. Brochures on the program are available from Mary Hoffman at 575-525-1050.

Club Outings Planned

The board is now discussing possible outings for 2014 and would welcome suggestions from members. Where do you want to go? Let us know. If you have comments or suggestions for additional trips pass them to any of the Board members.

The following trips are currently being planned:

- San Juan—May 1-4—three people are signed up
- Big Horn—June 23 to 28—seven people are signed up—(deposit of \$637.50/person due by April 14th)
- Rio Conejos—July 10-13—five people are signed up—the Club will be staying at the Magote campground.
- Kodiak—October 4-12—six people are signed up.
- October - the Club's annual trip to the San Juan.

Annual Kids' Fishing Clinic

Saturday, 5 April

MANY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Don't forget the Kids Fishing Clinic scheduled for April 5th at 9 AM at Alumni Pond next to the Pan Am Center on the NMSU campus. Volunteers should arrive at 7:30am to set up the stations, rig up the rods and reels, etc. Trout will be stocked in the pond by NM Game and Fish.

The clinic portion of the activities will consist of knot tying, fly tying, fish anatomy, fish identification, fish prints, entomology, bait, casting and fishing rules and regulations.

There will be some prizes, pizza and drinks. Last year we had 120 kids register for the clinic! Along with parents and volunteers we had over 300 in attendance. As you can see, we need a lot of volunteers, at least 25 for this event. Please mark your calendar and make plans to help out with this event.

Contact Tom Wobbe at tomjaw@aol.com or 575-649-0388.

Welcome New Members

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| Michael & Betty Frederich | Las Cruces, NM |
| Michael & Patricia McAdams | Las Cruces, NM |
| Abraham Piedra | Alamogordo, NM |
| Gary Rafferty | Alamogordo, NM |
| Teresa Sedlacek | Mesilla, NM |
| William & Angie True | Deming, NM |
| Louis Winslow | Stillwater, MN |

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MVFF Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 17, 2014

Submitted by Dave Medler, Secretary

The MVFF Board meeting was called to order at 7:00pm in the NMDG&F Conference Room by President Jim Sorenson. In attendance were Jim Sorenson, Bob Silver, Gary Mann, Paul Turner, Ray Rodriguez, Dennis Lanpher, Dave Medler and non-board members Ron Bellerose, Tom Wobbe, Jim Hulsey, Rodger Poole and Alex Montes.

1. Minutes of the February 2014 Board meeting were approved as published in the March issue of the newsletter.
2. The treasurer reported that the Club has a balance of \$11,468.00. The Treasurer's report was accepted.
3. Tom Wobbe reported the Club has 251 paid up members.
4. Project Healing Waters-Ron Bellerose reported that PHW rod building went off great. PHW fly tying and casting is April 2, 2014 followed by a

trip to the Lease on April 9, 2014. Also the possibility of four trips to the San Juan River for Vets was discussed.

5. Trout Unlimited, Las Animas creek restoration project is moving along.
6. Wobbe stated kids fishing clinic is expecting over 100 kids.
7. Discussed the AFS students' trip to the Lease April 12, 2014. Details in newsletter.
8. Discussed upcoming club trips. Still working on a camping site for Conejos River trip.
9. Club member Alex Montes reported on mentoring trip with the Lady Anglers. Reviewed Mentoring program and discussed with board members the guide hiring process. The cost factor for guides is the determining factor in guide hiring.
10. Next meeting will be Monday, April 21, 2014. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

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***** REMEMBER *****

MVFF MEMBERSHIPS & NM FISHING LICENSES EXPIRED ON 31 MARCH

Quick Look Contact Information

| 2014 Officers of the Club | |
|---|--|
| Officers | |
| • President: | Jim Sorenson (575) 525-1050 |
| • V-Pres.: | Chuck Mueller (575) 647-4045 |
| • Secretary: | Dave Medler, Jr. (575) 434-9313 |
| • Treasurer: | Gary Mann (575) 521-7793 |
| Board Members | |
| • Position 1: | Paul Turner (575) 523-6880 |
| • Position 2: | Jim Sorenson (575) 525-1050 |
| • Position 3: | Jeff Arterburn (575) 524-0773 |
| • Position 4: | Ray Rodriquez (575) 524-9420 |
| • Position 5: | Dave Medler, Jr. (575) 434-9313 |
| • 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) 642-2946 |
| Newsletter & Web Page Editor | |
| • Jim Hulsey (575) 524-1880 | newsletter@mvff.org |
| Membership Committee Chairman | |
| • Tom Wobbe (575) 522-5437 | membership@mvff.org |

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| Norm Mabie Scholarship Fund | |
| Market Value as of 30 June 2012 | \$9,808 |

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
 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, 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.

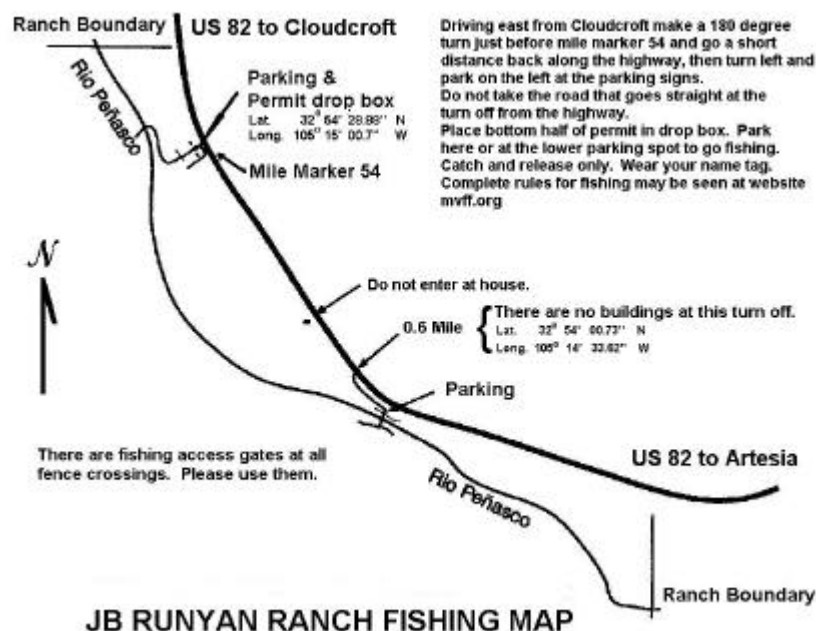
| | | |
|---------|-------|------------|
| 1 Year | \$20 | Individual |
| | \$25 | Family |
| 3 Years | \$50 | Individual |
| | \$60 | Family |
| Life | \$400 | Individual |
| | \$500 | Family |

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 out of town 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.