

Tale Waters

December 2007



Mailing Address: MVFF, P.O. Box 2222, Las Cruces, NM 88004-2222

Website: www.MVFF.org

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Membership Meeting

George Sanders: Speaker

Monday, 10 December

The monthly membership meeting will be held on 10 December with George Sanders speaking on "Flyfishing the Green River, UT and the Gunnison River, CO".

Executive Board Meeting

Monday, 17 December

The MVFF Executive Board will meet on Monday 17 December at 7:00 PM at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. Election results for officers and board members will be canvassed. All members are welcome to attend.

Liars and Tyers

Thursday, 27 December

Liars and Tyers will meet Thursday 27 December at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room starting at 7:00 PM. The group will be tying the *Stimulator*. This is a great dry fly and one of the most used flies. Tying will be demonstrated by Joseph

Lopez. A photograph and recipe is presented later in this newsletter. Don't miss out. Extra vises and supplies available for beginning tiers.

President's Corner

Paul Turner

Several MVFF activities should be put on your calendar for December and January. The regular monthly meeting will be on December 10th with George Sanders giving an illustrated talk on his June flyfishing trip on Colorado's Gunnison and Utah's Green River below Flaming Gorge Reservoir. These are famous rivers with beautiful scenery and great flyfishing water. I will warn you now that attending this presentation may lead to a June 2008 commitment of time. We have scheduled the annual awards banquet for January 12th and will have an interesting program by Jude Duran and plenty of great food, prizes and friendship to share. We will provide more details about the awards banquet in the January newsletter, but we will provide a variety of BBQ, rolls, drinks and other items as we normally have done. I hope we get a good turnout for this activity and several out-of-town members have told me they plan to attend. This is really a fun event and a great way for new members to meet many of the old-timers from the club and their families. We plan to recognize several club members for their contributions of time for club activities during the year and will be announcing the results of the elections for board members and officers at the banquet. Keep in mind that one of our special prizes will be selected from the tickets that attendees have been putting into the bucket at regular meetings this year. So if you want to increase your chances you should attend the December meeting. We have ordered a 5-weight, 4-piece Loomis GLX Premium flyrod kit that Joseph Lopez will use for the flyrod for our raffle at the banquet. We will be selling chances

for the rod and other prizes at the banquet so you have to attend to have a chance for these great prizes; we would allow you to purchase raffle tickets via other club members or officers that are planning to attend.

I am planning several trips over the holidays to visit relatives and friends so my fishing for the rest of the year is likely to be limited. The club is planning several club trips next year and hope to have the dates available soon so members can make plans to join us. In my unbiased opinion, I think the Mesilla Valley Flyfishers is a great club and can only get better with more involvement of the membership in club activities. Remember that if you're too busy to go fishing, you're TOO BUSY.

Paul

Annual Banquet

The general membership meeting will not be held in January, instead we will have our annual potluck banquet. Details are still being worked but it appears that it will probably be held on the 12th at St. Paul's Methodist church. Jude Duran, well-known San Juan guide, will be the speaker. There will be door prizes and a raffle for a Joseph Lopez-built rod. If you plan

on attending, please let us know so that the proper amount of barbecue can be ordered. Final details will be in the January newsletter.

Club Outings Planned

All Club sponsored outings planned for 2007 have been taken and provided much quality fishing and camaraderie for the participants. The board is now discussing possible outings for next year 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 George Sanders, (575) 527-5536, who has volunteered to chair the "Outings" committee.

Wading Boots for Sale

Karen Erickson has a pair of size 11 "ultimate studded felt sole wading boots" by Weinbrenner - used 2 times, for sale. \$50, sell new for \$110. 575-524-7729.

Welcome New Members

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Barry Idoine | Las Angeles, CA |
| Sam Lathem | Las Cruces, NM |



MVFF Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 19, 2007

The MVFF Board meeting was called to order at 7:00pm in the NMDG&F conference room.

In Attendance: Paul Turner, Jim Hulsey, Ron Bellerose, Jeff Arterburn, Tom Wobbe, Gary Mann, Richard Keding, George Sanders and Donna Mabie

1. The Minutes of the October Board Meeting were approved. The Treasurer's Report presented by Gary Mann was also approved.
2. Discussion was held regarding whether MVFF should affiliate with the Federation of Flyfishmen or Trout Unlimited. The board decided to continue as an independent club at this time.
3. Paul announced that the Annual Awards Banquet will be held January 12th. It is unknown at this date as to whether it will be held at the usual location on Locust Street at

University Methodist Church or at St. Paul's Methodist Church on Alameda St. The church on Locust Street had a kitchen fire this year and does not know if it will be ready by January 12th. If it is, the banquet will be there. Discussion was also held as to who could speak at the banquet. Joseph Lopez said he would build a fishing rod for the raffle. There will be at least an additional \$200 spent for door and raffle prizes.

4. MVFF club members will erect new signs at the Rio Peñasco stressing that fishing is by permit only and by MVFF club membership. Other information will be added. There have been some abuses of the fishing there by non-members that claim ignorance when challenged.

5. Jim Hulseley presented the brochure he devised welcoming new club members and listing various rules, regulations, map of the lease, etc. Jim was given authority to go ahead with ordering the brochures and comparing the price at Kinko's to that of ABC Printing.
6. George Sanders will do an article for the newsletter regarding upcoming fishing trips for club members.
7. The spring kid's fishing clinic will be coordinated with NM Game and Fish Dept. for

- probably April 5 or 12, 2008, depending on stocking arrangements and their preference.
8. A Club booth demonstrating flytying will be Feb. 2, 2008 at the new Bosque State Park.
9. Voting for new Board Members and Officers will be coming up soon and be in the newsletter and mentioned at the December general meeting on December 10.
10. The Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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Election of Officers and Board Members for 2008

It is once again that time of year when we elect a slate of officers and board members to run the Club for the coming year. All of the nominated candidates have volunteered to serve. Please mark your choices on the ballot below by checking the square in front of each name. If you or any of your friends are interested in a position then write in the name in the

appropriate place and mail the ballot to the address on the newsletter letter head or bring your marked ballot to the December membership meeting. The Board will certify the results at the Board meeting in December (which all members are invited to attend) and the new officers will take office at the Club banquet in January 2008.

POSITION	<input type="checkbox"/>	NOMINATED CANDIDATE	<input type="checkbox"/>	WRITE-IN CANDIDATE
President		Paul Turner		
Vice-President		Jeff Arterburn		
Secretary		Donna Mabie		
Treasurer		Gary Mann		

The following Club members have expressed willingness to serve on the executive board for the coming year. Please vote for only five members. The five with the most votes will comprise the new board.

Executive Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	George Sanders		
Executive Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ron Bellerose		
Executive Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tom Wobbe		
Executive Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bob Silver		
Executive Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jeremiah Richardson		
Executive Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	Randall Vallee		

Getting Started in Saltwater Fly Fishing

Bob Silver, MVFF Member

I have lived on the Texas coast and I have family in Florida so it was only natural to start thinking about flyfishing in saltwater. For some reason, the learning curve always seemed very steep until this year. In July, I went to Florida to visit family and met another fly fisher on the beach near Boynton Beach Inlet. He gave me a few tips and told me about a local fly shop that was very helpful. In addition, I was fortunate enough to be invited by MVFF member Al Trompler to go on a trip for red fish. Between those two trips, while I am still little more than an instant expert, things began to make sense. I learned some things that might encourage you to take your rod next time you head for the coast and try a little fishing.

If you are already a fly fisher, you can apply your basic knowledge to saltwater with some additional pointers. First your gear, especially the reel and hooks, need to be corrosion proof to saltwater. Your reel will get the brunt of the abuse and it should be specifically designed with materials to resist saltwater. Most manufactures will tell you which models are intended for saltwater use. For flies, make sure they are tied with hooks intended for saltwater otherwise they will rust no matter how careful you are about washing them off. Also don't mix your saltwater patterns with your fresh water flies, eventually this will cause the freshwater flies to rust. Everyday, wash your reel and line in a dish pan of soapy water and rinse well to get the salt from the line, backing, and the spool. Also wash and dry your rod and the rod guides. Then make sure everything is really dry before you put the rod and the reel away. Buy flies at your destination. In Florida, the owner helped me a great deal and buying locally you'll get the benefit from the shop owner's local knowledge of the area.

Select a rod and reel to fit your intended fishing. In hunting terms, "use enough gun." There are two things to consider. First, obviously the species of fish. Do a little research on the Internet to see what guides recommend. If you fish with a guide, they'll usually

have outfits already rigged for you to use. If you are fishing on your own, then generally an 8- or 9-weight will be enough for most situations like fishing the flats or surf. Typically, you will find redfish, snook, jacks, small tarpon (20 to 30 pounders) and the like. These outfits would be too light for fish 40 lbs and larger. The second consideration is the wind and the size of the fly. Many times you could land fish on a 6- or 7-weight, but combating the wind with bulky flies requires a heavier outfit. Finally, reels must have enough capacity for 150 yards or more of backing plus the line. This usually means using a reel meant for 8- to 10-weight range rods. One hundred and fifty yards might seem like a lot of backing until you hook something that decides it doesn't want to be near you anymore. One of the exciting things about saltwater fishing is variety and size of fish you might encounter. No one I know would pass up a chance at a big fish, so it's good to have more "gun" that not enough.

There are a variety of fly line choices to consider based on where you will be fishing. To get started I would recommend figuring what kind of fishing you are going to be doing most often and get lines suitable for that purpose. First (and the one most people should start with) is the full floating line to use when fishing shallow water or topwater flies. If you really get hooked (no pun intended) a second line to have would be an intermediate line for those windy days in the surf or when fishing a little deeper. Third would be an integrated running line/shooting head for fishing in deep water.



Saltwater flyfishing will emphasize your casting ability whether it is good or bad. Learn to cast and then learn to double haul. Most of us have experience fishing freshwater streams and rivers. In this type of fishing, you have time to pinpoint where to make the next cast and you decide when to cast. But, in saltwater all of that changes, you don't get to make those decisions; therefore, you need to always be ready as the fish can appear from anywhere. They are usually moving fast and you have very little time to make a good cast, which by the way, may be the only cast you get before they are out of range and gone. You need to be able to cast accurately 60 or 70 feet. Learn to double haul. It is a casting technique to get distance against the wind and to cast bulky flies with a heavy rod without killing your arm and shoulder.



Rigging for saltwater is a joy compared to fishing size 26 flies on the San Juan. Size 4 and 2 hooks and 10 to 15-pound test leaders are the norm. In Florida, I used a saltwater nine-foot 15-pound leader that ended with a "bite" tippet of 12-inches of 30-pound fluorocarbon. The term bite tippet to me was exciting because it meant I was after the big stuff that could bite through line. A bite tippet is essentially a heavier piece of line to protect against abrasion from teeth and scales. Knots are just as important as in freshwater, but easier to tie. A loop knot for the fly and a blood knot for the tippet to leader both work well. Flies used imitate small fish or crustaceans. Reading water is a challenge. Like their freshwater brethren, saltwater fish like moving water. In saltwater, this means fishing on a rising or falling tide. During my stay in Florida, high tide was at dawn. But, be aware that the tidal period changes daily. Tide information can found on the Internet, local

papers and at bait and fishing shops. I fished from the beach near a bay's outlet to the Atlantic Ocean. The outgoing tide swept bait fish and other food from the bay into the ocean where bigger fish would lay in wait. Bait fish would explode from the water as larger fish trapped them against the shore. It was a matter of getting your fly into the melee and stripping quickly. Also saltwater fish migrate and at certain times of the year large fish cruise the beaches especially early and late in the day. One morning, I caught a snook and on another morning, a tarpon took a shot at my fly leaving me totally thrilled. Spending a little money at the local flyshops is another good way to find out about the bite as this changes throughout the year.

Wade fishing is another form of flyfishing that can be very enjoyable. Redfish, bonefish, sea trout, tarpon and other species will enter very shallow water called the flats in search of food. Fishing on the flats is more like hunting deer in that an angler can sometimes spot fish from a distance and can work into a position for a cast. Al and I spent several days walking the flats in water less than shin-deep fishing for redfish. One day we also used kayaks to cover distances quickly to close in on working fish and as transportation between areas.



The learning curve for saltwater fishing is mostly about building new confidence. Just follow the same basic flyfishing tactics and do some research about the area before you go. Talk with people who have done this before. Go out and practice on a local pond or in the yard and see what you can do with a 9-weight before you go. Then be prepared to have all the flyline and backing disappear off your reel faster than you have ever seen it go before!

Quick Look Contact Information

2007 Officers of the Club	
Officers	
• President	Paul Turner (575) 523-6880
• V-Pres.	Jeff Arterburn (575) 524-0773
• Secretary	Donna Mabie (575) 522-3810
• Treasurer	Gary Mann (575) 521-7793
Board Members	
• Position 1	Richard Keding (575) 382-7498
• Position 2	Ron Bellerose (575) 541-0807
• Position 3	Tom Wobbe (575) 522-5437
• Position 4	Bob Silver (575) 522-6325
• Position 5	George Sanders (575) 527-5536
Newsletter & Web Page Editor	
• Jim Hulsey (575) 524-1880	newsletter@mvff.org

Norm Mabie Scholarship Fund	\$10,677
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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.

Bamboo Rod Repair

Club member Karen Erickson is interested in working on old bamboo rods. If you have one that needs repairs give Karen a call at (575) 524-7729.

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.

Angler's Nook

Donna's Shop is open as usual. Please contact her at (575) 522-3810 for your fishing and tying supplies. She also has membership information and fishing permits.

Club members receive a 33% discount on most items at the Angler's Nook.
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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. See the MVFF website for purchase.



RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP - DUE MARCH 31

And don't forget to renew your NM fishing license
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Stimulator

The center of attention for the Liars and Tyers this month will be the *Stimulator*.

The *Stimulator* was designed and made popular by Randall Kaufmann. By merely changing the color of materials and adding various sizes, he created a pattern that has a wide variety of applications. The larger sizes are used to imitate large stoneflies or salmonflies or maybe grasshoppers. While in smaller sizes, the *Stimulator* is used for caddis imitations.

Pictured is the *Orange Stimulator* but dubbing color can vary widely on this pattern. Try yellow, brown and olive.

Information for the *Stimulator* presented here was taken from web site <http://www.flyangleronline.com/flytying/intermediate/patt25.html> where detailed tying instructions can also be found. If you are not familiar with this site, it is one of the very best for fly tying and pattern archives.



- Hook:** 3XL dry fly, sizes 8 - 18.
- Thread:** Orange prewaxed 8/0, 6/0, or 3/0.
- Body:** Orange dubbing.
- Thorax:** Amber or yellow dubbing.
- Rib:** Very fine gold or brass wire.
- Hackle:** Brown or furnace dry fly hackle, palmered.
- Wing:** Bleached or Natural Elk Body Hair fibers.
- Tail:** Bleached or Natural Elk Body Hair fibers.



MVFF Monthly Events Calendar

Month	Events	Trips	General Club Meeting Topic/Speaker	Clinics or Lease Projects
November	Liars & Tyers 29 Nov. Elk-Hair Caddis		12 Nov. - Bob Silver will speak on "Salt Water Flyfishing".	
December	Liars & Tyers 27 Dec. Stimulator		10 Dec. - George Sanders will speak on "Fishing the Gunnison & Green Rivers".	
January 2008	Liars & Tyers 31 Jan.		Annual Banquet Jude Duran: Speaker	

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.

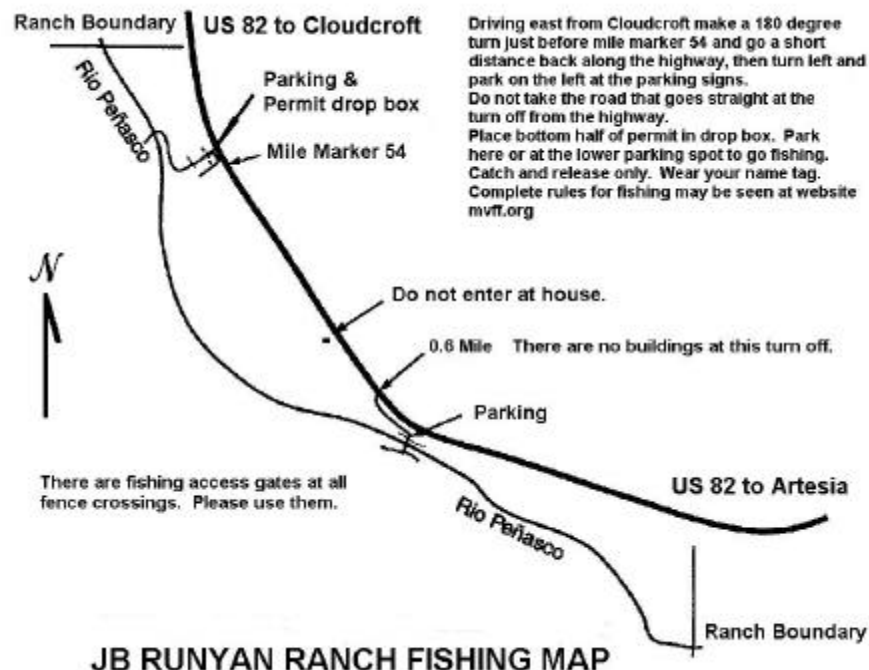
1 Year	\$20	Individual
	\$25	Family
3 Years	\$50	Individual
	\$60	Family
Life	\$400	Individual
	\$500	Family

Lease Information

Permits to fish the Club leased waters on the Rio Peñasco can be obtained from any of the Club Officers or Board Members and are also available at the *Angler's Nook* (575-522-3810) in Las Cruces and the ATF fly shop in El Paso (915-225-0570.) 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 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 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.