

Tale Waters

January 2005



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

Website: www.MVFF.org

Annual MVFF Potluck Banquet 22 January 2005

The annual MVFF Banquet will be held at 6 PM Saturday, January 22, 2005 at the University United Methodist Church, 2000 Locust Street in Las Cruces, NM (at the same location as last year's banquet). **Dutch Salmon**, the noted outdoorsman, author, and newspaper outdoor columnist from Silver City, New Mexico will be our guest speaker. He will discuss canoeing and fishing on the Gila River. In addition, he has an update on the water development issues on the Gila. The Club will be serving beef brisket, sausage, and chicken along with refreshments. Please bring a covered dish, a salad, rolls, or a desert to round out the meal. In addition to camaraderie, there will be a number of door prizes and there will also be a raffle of fly fishing equipment such as a rod and many other items. Raffle tickets will be available for \$2.50 each or 5 for \$10.00.

NM Trout Conclave 15 January 2005

NM Trout will be having their annual Conclave on January 15, 2005 from 8:30 am to 5 pm at the Sandia Prep School, 532 Osuna Rd, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Directions can be found on the NM Trout website at www.NEWMEXICOTROUT.org. Doug Swisher, Bill Edrington and Larry Kingrey are the guest speakers for the event. Doug Swisher will present a fly fishing slide show, a specialized tying demo and a casting demo. Bill Edrington's programs consist of "Fishing the Arkansas River" and "Tying and Fishing Flies for Freestone Streams in the Rocky Mountain West," which is a joint program with Larry Kingrey. Larry Kingrey will also be giving tying demonstrations

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"Having all memberships expire on the same date will simply record keeping"

throughout the day. The cost of the event is \$30 for NM Trout members and \$45 for non-members. This is really a special event that is worth making the drive to Albuquerque. Included with the cost of admission is a catered lunch and a live auction during the break to bid on great items.

Changes to Membership Expiration

The Board has been investigating ways to simplify the record keeping process of the membership. Currently, your membership expires 12 months from the date that you join the Club. Your membership expiration is the date that is on the address mailing label of the monthly newsletter. Updating the membership records each month is substantial task; therefore, we want to try a different approach by having all memberships expire on the same date. Starting in 2005, the Board voted that all memberships will expire each March 31. There are two main benefits of this approach. First, March 31 is the date when your fishing license also expires.

Tip of the Month

What are emergers?

Insects appear very different as they mature through their life cycle. If you have ever seen a maggot on a dead animal or a big green hornworm caterpillar on your tomatoes plants, these are the larval forms of the housefly and the sphinx moth. To a beginning fisherman, the term "emerger" may bring a confused look. It's not a term often used or found in any other realm. That word is not even in the dictionary !!

It is usefulness to learn the identity of the insects that are present in the waters that we fish and understand that insects have different life cycles/stages that we need to be familiar with. Well the emerger stage is the last stage before adulthood for aquatic born winged insects. With each type of aquatic insect, the emergent stage works pretty much the same. When the right time comes (most feel it is the right culmination of "degree days" over the insects life thus far) the nymph or larvae will start to gather air under its skin, usually forming a bubble like bulge on its back right behind the head. This gathering continues until the point of which the nymph/larvae begins to float to the surface. Most just ascend without any movement, but some swim and/or wiggle about. Either way, they are totally at the mercy of the current during their ascent and the fish know it. And what happens next, leaves many insects even more helpless.

The insect's ascent stops just below the surface. Then it must do two things. First, it must break through its nymphal/larval skin or shuck. Then it must break through the surface tension. Neither of these are easy tasks with the fish again knowing it. Some insects are unable to completely break through their shuck and end up dying or drowning during the process. These are known as cripples and trout, being the picky feeders that they are, will at times only focus on these insects. But, those

insects that are successful aren't out of the woods...uhh water, yet. Some, like mayflies and midges, must float along waiting for their wings to dry before being able to take flight. Others, like caddis, can fly almost the instant they break through to freedom.

Knowing these things and being able to identify them when you're on the water will further your ability to understand the world that our finned friends live in. You'll better be able to imitate their food choices and ultimately catch more fish.

MVFF Recap of 2004

The Board of Directors of the Mesilla Valley Flyfishers would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your membership in the club. We have completed several projects and held many special events during the past year. The following are the things that were accomplished and we appreciate your help and support.

- Special Recognition Award presented to Norm Mabie
- Annual Banquet held Jan 24th
- Fly Tying Clinic- August 9
- Fly Tying Clinic - March 8
- \$500 Scholarship Award presented to Ms. Stephanie Caballero
- Penasco River Clean-up Project held March 20
- Penasco Fish Stocking April 10 and Nov 6 totaling 650 fish
- Annual Picnic & Raffle - Sept 18
- Kids Fishing Clinic held at NMSU Alumni Pond April 17
- Casting Clinic- R. Keding- Oct 2-3
- San Juan Fishing Trips-May 15-16 and Oct 15-17
- Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout print
- The Norm Mabie Memorial Scholarship Fund established
- Penasco Stream Project of 3,400 ft. of fence and several stream diversions
- Club Social & Fly Raffle - Dec 13

Fly of the Month

Tak's Biot Winged Midge Adult

Originator: Rick Takahashi, Ft. Collins CO

Photo by Jeremy Barela

Information credited to the New Mexico Trout website

This fly can also be tied a number of different ways including without the hackle to resemble an emerger. Without the hackle and with two sections of crystal flash instead of the biot for the wing to resemble another emerger form. Or it can be tied without the wing and hackle to resemble the larvae. You can also tie the midge in other colors for additional variation. By fishing two flies at once with the larvae closest to the rod (point fly) and the emerger as a dropper (tied to the bend of the hook of the point fly) you can cover both the larvae and emerger stages of the midge to see if trout are keying in on one form or the other. One of these will catch a trout. The larvae should be the point fly because it will float closer to the stream bottom where the natural midge larvae are found. This is because the point fly is closest to the split shot while the dropper fly will ride higher in the water column where the midge emergers tend to be found. You can also use flies of different colors to see if fish prefer one color over another. Fishing with two flies allows you find the fish's preferences more quickly. It also gives you the excuse to tie more flies.

Materials:

- **Hook:** Daiichi 1130 #18-28
- **Thread:** Black 8/0
- **Ribbing:** fine Lagarten Silver wire (try gold too)
- **Body:** black thread
- **Wing:** White goose biot
- **Hackle:** Dun hackle



Tak's Biot Winged Midge Adult

Directions:

- De-barb the hook
- Start thread on shank and wrap to halfway point of hook. Tie in silver wire and wrap thread back to above the barb.
- Wrap thread back up to thorax area and follow with silver wire, making a nice ribbed body.
- Tie in white goose biot to fit the size of pattern you are tying.
- The biot should not go past the bend of the hook. Trim the excess biot.
- Tie in dun hackle. Wrap hackle around 3-4 times to create the legs.
- Tie off the hackle and trim the excess.
- Whip finish a small head.

Membership Rules from page 1

Having both expire on the same time, we hope will act as an added reminder to renew both your license and your MVFF membership. Second, we believe that we can do a better job of record keeping and making sure that the roster of members is accurate. At present, updating the membership and sending out reminders requires constant monthly attention. In addition, the updating process is compounded by the differences in people's computer skills, software and hardware variations and time available. Under the new approach, records would be updated in April, reminders to those that did not renew would all be sent out at one time, and only new membership information would need to be added monthly.

We recognize that in the first year that some people will not benefit from a full 12-month membership. Therefore to lessen this problem, any expiring memberships that are paid between December 31, 2004 and March 30, 2005 will not expire until March 31, 2006.

The Norm Mabie Endowment Fund

We have approximately \$2,500 in the scholarship fund. We especially want to thank *She Fishes!* in Albuquerque for their \$200 donation. The scholarship has been named in honor of Norm Mabie. The Students are selected by the MVFF Board based on their scholarly achievement, financial need, and demonstrated involvement in fisheries and wildlife science activities outside of school. We plan to deposit the donations until we have accumulated \$10,000 so that an endowment at New Mexico State University can be created. Until that time when the endowment has been established, MVFF will continue to provide an annual scholarship from MVFF funds

Help us raise the fund. Please bring a check to the next meeting, the Banquet or mail a check to the

*"Liars and Tiers next Month
27 January!"*

Club. Please make checks out to Norm Mabie Memorial Scholarship Fund for deposit only. For any questions please contact one of the Officers or Board members.

Liars and Tiers

We have begun a *Liars and Tiers* session the last Thursday of each month at the New Mexico Game and Fish Conference Room which is where we have the regular monthly meetings. The first session started December 30 and there were 10 tiers and learning to be tiers. Some good fishing stories were also told. The next date is January 27th. The fly that will be tied is the Caddis Larva. The recipe is

- **Hook:** Mustad 3906 #14-16 or equivalent
- **Thread:** Black 8/0
- **Ribbing:** copper wire
- **Abdomen:** Ultra chenille (olive, tan, brown, cream)
- **Thorax:** Ultra Chenille dark brown

Quick Look Contact Information 2004 Officers of the Club

President	Richard Keding (505) 382-7498
Vice President	Tom Wobbe (505) 522-5437
Secretary	Jeff Arterburn (505) 524-0773
Treasurer	Al Trompler (505) 532-5668
Board Members	
Jim Hulsey	(505) 524-1880
Bob Pridgen	(505) 526-9132
George O'Connor	(915) 584-9318
Bob Silver	(505) 522-6325
Paul Turner	(505) 523-6880

2005 MVFF Monthly Events Calendar*

Month	Events	Trips	General Club Meeting Topic/Speaker	Clinics or Lease Projects
January	Liars & Tiers 27 Jan		22 January 6 pm MVFF Banquet & Raffle, Featured speaker - Dutch Salmon	NM Trout Conclave - Jan 15 Albuquerque, NM Sandia Prep School
February	Liars & Tiers 24 Feb		14 February Alaska Fishing with Doc Warner	<i>Penasco Improvement Project</i>
March	Liars & Tiers 31 Mar		March 8 Yucatan Fishing with Al Trompler	
April	Liars & Tiers 28 Apr		April 11 San Juan Flies with Jude Duran	<i>Fish stocking at Lease and Kids Fishing Day</i>
May	Liars & Tiers 26 May	<i>San Juan Trip</i>	May 9 How to Match the Hatch with Steve Robbins of Tyler Jr. College, TX	
June	Liars & Tiers 30 Jun		No Meeting	
July	Liars & Tiers 27 Jul			
August	Liars & Tiers 25 Aug		8 August Prepping for the San Juan	
September	Liars & Tiers 29 Sep			<i>Annual Picnic and Raffle</i>
October	Liars & Tiers 27 Oct	<i>San Juan Trip</i>		<i>Casting Clinic</i>
November	Liars & Tiers 17 Nov			<i>Fish Stocking</i>
December	Liars & Tiers 29 Dec			

* **Bold text** in table means confirmed and *Italics text* means tentative

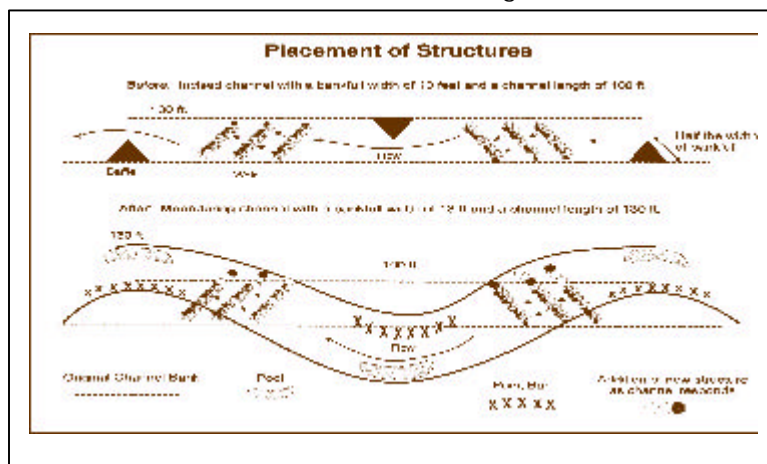
Presidents Page

This year has been very productive! We've got the fence built on the Rio Peñasco project. There is still a lot of work to be done on the Rio Peñasco and we could sure use more volunteers. I've really enjoyed meeting the new members and talking with them. I would like to thank all the board members for all their hard work and time they have spent organizing and setting up all the projects, activities, and events. (Thank You!!) You just can't be a good club without all the good people and I know we have a Great Club! I would also like to thank everyone for all their support and all the people that volunteered their time and effort on the work projects for the Club. I would also like to say Norm we miss you! I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the January .22nd banquet. HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYBODY and GOD BLESS,

Richard

Rio Peñasco Stream improvement Project Status

Induced meandering lets the river do the work is a surprisingly easy way to stabilize incised channels in the Southwest. We are fortunate to have the expertise of Bill Zeedyk helping us on the project at the lease. Bill is a nationally known expert in this stream improvement technique and has worked all over New Mexico and the Southwest. "Induced Meandering" is the name that Bill Zeedyk gives this newly described riparian restoration practice that modifies the shape and dimensions of incised channels (arroyos in the arid southwest) and brings life back to these eroding river systems. A key component of Induced Meandering is bioengineering - the selective introduction or removal of stream bank vegetation and soils. This technique, as shown in the



diagram, is not only economically feasible, it utilizes hand labor to cut vegetation and build baffles and riffles, and is a highly practical alternative to channel modification that would use excavating machinery and other bank stabilization methods (such as rock/wire gabions). Hand labor is where we need the help of the Club. Last month,

bad weather forced us to postpone the December work project. But a few of us worked with Bill Zeedyk to understand the technique and how the diversions need to be installed. With Bill's help, rather quickly we installed two baffles. We haven't planned a new date yet, but we need to have all of the raw materials ready before we schedule the next work project. If you would like to help cut the necessary juniper stakes at the lease, please contact Tom Wobbe at 505-522-5437 or Bob Silver at 505-522-6325. We want about 10 people for a Saturday and that group will make sure the materials are ready for the larger project, which likely will be rescheduled for early February. In December, we had a number of volunteers call from as far away as Lubbock and Midland, Texas. Be assured, we will call everyone for the larger project as soon as a new date has been set. **Don't forget, a rod will be given away.**

If you go fishing at the lease, walk downstream from the lower bridge and you'll see where the first baffle was installed. Two baffles were installed as on-the-job-training with Bill. The baffle closest to the bridge is finished, but we still have a little work to do to finish the second one.

Membership and Lease Information

Please contact any of the Clubs Officers or Board Members to obtain a fishing permit for \$20.00 per day. Student permits (12 or over) cost only \$12.00 per day. 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.
P.O. 2222, Las Cruces, NM 88004-2222
Membership Application
(Please print clearly)

NAME: _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____

Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Membership Status: (check one) Regular (\$20) _____ Family (\$25.00) _____

What would you like to get out of belonging to the Club? _____

How can you help the club? _____

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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**Next Meeting:
January 22, 2005
Annual Banquet and Potluck Dinner**

Location: University United Methodist Church
Address: 2000 Locust Street, Las Cruces, New Mexico

Directions from Interstate-25:

- TD added