

Tale Waters

January 2006



A Federation of Fly Fishers Club

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

Website: www.MVFF.org

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President's Corner

This past year has been both a rewarding one and a challenging one. It is a great reward to see and appreciate the fly fishing talent and experience of our many MVFF members. Our club has a wonderful mixture of both experienced and beginner fly fishers. It is also a challenge to develop programs and events that both levels can enjoy and reap a benefit. With that said I truly appreciate the continued dedication of the MVFF Board Members and officers and look forward to the coming year, along with the fishing opportunities it will bring.

How can you as a member of MVFF assist the club and see it continue to grow and prosper? By attending the general meetings, the fly tying sessions and assisting with the various club events and projects. We need and appreciate your continued participation and support at the general meetings, fly tying Liars & Tiers and other club events.

Please remember to contribute a short article for the newsletter. Tell us about yourself, your fly fishing adventures, your favorite places to fish, maybe your favorite book or magazine. Let us in on your secrets to your fly fishing success! Send a picture along with the article. It will only take a few minutes to write a short piece for the newsletter. Remember, we want to hear from you! Send them to the Newsletter Editor at the PO Box or E-Mail to newsletter@mvff.org .

Don't miss the annual Banquet, Jan 28, also the Liars & Tiers on Jan 26 and the MVFF Board meets Jan16th.

Tightlines,
Tom

Annual Banquet

The general membership meeting will not be held in January, instead we will have our annual potluck banquet. The annual MVFF Banquet will be held at 6 PM Saturday, January 28, 2006 at the University United Methodist Church, 2000 Locust Street in Las Cruces, NM (same location as last year's banquet). The doors will open at 5:30pm if you wish to come early and help set things up. A slide show presentation will be made showing highlights of the club's activities over the past year along with a few glimpses into fishing trips of club members. The Club will be serving barbecue and will furnish plates, napkins, flatware, etc. 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 silent auction and a raffle of fly fishing equipment. Raffle tickets will be available for \$2.50 each or 5 for \$10.00.

January Meetings

In addition to the banquet described above the Board will meet on 16 January at 7:00 PM. *Liars & Tiers* will meet on 26 January at 7:00 PM. All meetings will be at NMDG&F.

Election Results for New Officers

The MVFF Board canvassed the member votes at the Board meeting held 19 December 2005 and certified the results. The Officers and Board Members taking office at the banquet will be: President - Tom Wobbe, Vice President - Paul Turner, Treasurer - Al Trompler,

Secretary - Jeff Arteburn; board members will be Jim Hulsey, Bob Silver, Gary Mann, Richard Keding and Bob Pridgen.

Peñasco Fishing

Fishing at the Runyan Lease has been phenomenal since our club stocking in October! Reports have come in from Gary Mann-23, Jerry Schickedanz-16, Don Eddings & Wade Hedgecoke-20+ and Jeff Arterburn & George Sanders-20+. These are some of the great fishing reports we have received about fishing on the Peñasco. Permits are available from Donna Mabie, Jim Hulsey and Tom Wobbe, so why not give it a try. Take a few minutes and put in a report on the website, when you have a successful fishing trip.

New Mexico Trout 2006 Conclave

New Mexico Trout will hold its 2006 annual Conclave on Saturday, January 21 at Sandia Prep School, 532 Osuna NE in Albuquerque from 8:00 am to 4:30pm. The program will consist of several instructional lectures by regional flyfishing experts, several fly casting demonstrations and a large raffle.

Guest speakers for this year's Conclave will be Taylor Streit and John Duncan. The casting clinics will be conducted by local expert Bob Widgren.

Taylor Streit grew up wading the fabled waters of the Catskills before moving to Northern New Mexico in the late 60s. He has guided fly fishers for 25 years, primarily in New Mexico, but also in the Bahamas and

Argentina. He was inducted into the Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame in 2001. He is the author of two books, Fly Fishing New Mexico, and Instinctive Fly Fishing. He will present talks on "Fishing the Northern Mountains," "Famous Patterns," and "Argentine Experience."

John Duncan spent his formative years chasing trout around the Olympic Peninsula in Washington, then attended college in Colorado and subsequently followed his fly rod to Telluride, both as a guide and a casting instructor for Scott Fly Rod Company. In 2001, he and two friends took over the Telluride Outside guide service and Telluride Angler fly shop. He has fished the waters of Southwest Colorado for 17 years and has ventured to Christmas Island, Canada and the Northeast. He will make presentations on "Flyfishing Southwest Colorado," "Special Fly Patterns," and "Christmas Island Special." Bob Widgren, a master rod builder and expert casting instructor, will conduct four separate casting sessions, viz, "Fly Casting Essentials," "Casting Controls," "Smooth Techniques," and "Technical Casting." Participants must bring their own equipment - rod, reel and line. Time permitting, each participant will receive personal diagnostics. Many raffle items will be available and the program will end with the announcement of raffle winners. Tickets are \$30 for members and \$45 for non-members and include lunch.. Children under 12 years will be admitted

Liars and Tiers

Liars and Tiers will meet Thursday 26 January at the New Mexico Game and Fish offices starting at 7:00 PM. The group will be tying the Joe's Hopper. Summer and fall grasshoppers are present in nearly

every region. This imitation will result in hard hitting strikes.

Don't miss out. Extra vises and supplies available for beginning tiers.



Hook: TMC 5212 Sizes 4 through 16.

Thread: Black or dark brown.

Body: Yellow wool or chenille.

Wing: 2 matched turkey quill sections.

Tail: Red hackle fibers or deer hair.

Ribbing: Brown Hackle.

Hackle: Brown and grizzly mixed.

Quick Look Contact Information

2006 Officers of the Club	
Officers	
• President	Tom Wobbe (505) 522-5437
• V-Pres.	Paul Turner (505) 523-6880
• Secretary	Jeff Arterburn (505) 524-0773
• Treasurer	Al Trompler (505) 532-5668
Board Members	
•	Richard Keding (505) 382-7498
•	Bob Pridgen (505) 526-9132
•	Gary Mann (505) 521-7793
•	Bob Silver (505) 522-6325
•	Jim Hulsey (505) 524-1880
Newsletter Editor	
•	Jim Hulsey (505) 524-1880

Angler's Nook

Norm's Shop is open as usual. Please contact Donna at 522-3810 for your fishing and tying supplies. She also has membership information, fishing permits and extra newsletters.

Private Fly Tying Lessons

If you are interested in learning how to tie flies, Joseph Lopez would like to give private fly tying lessons at Norm's Shop. Please call Donna Mabie at 522-3810, and she will help you get in touch with him to work out the arrangements and cost. Joseph is a club member and avid fly fisherman. Norm taught Joseph to tie flies and build rods when he was a young boy. Give him a try!

Norm Mabie Endowment Fund

The scholarship has been named in honor of Norm Mabie. The NMSU Foundation will be handling the checks for the Club. We plan to deposit the donations until we have accumulated \$10,000 so that a permanent 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 or mail a check to the Club. 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." 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.

Presently the fund contains \$4,790. We are doing fairly well but still have a long way to go.

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.

Newsletter on Website

Each month the *Tale Waters* is placed on the MVFF webpage (www.mvff.org), usually several days prior to being mailed, in Adobe Acrobat format. If you wish to view it there you have the advantage of seeing it earlier and in color.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP - DUE MARCH 31

And don't forget to renew your NM fishing license

Characters on the Stream

By Toney Sisk - Taken from the Housatonic Fly Fishermen's Association Newsletter

We've all seen them--Characters. Fellow flyfishers who have given us pause--either because they inspire us, humor us . . . or cause us to run the other way. The following is a collection of people I've seen or fished with who strike me as interesting fishing characters (some bizarre, a few possibly insane). None of these characters remotely resemble you or me, keep in mind. And it is not relevant that some of them catch more fish than you or me. That's not the point. The point is . . . well, I'm not sure what the point is, but follow along anyway.

The Entomologist This one knows bugs. All bugs. Doesn't even have to make up bug names. Can pronounce the scientific names of all bugs, as evidenced by his pointing out that you cannot pronounce any of them correctly. Has one fly box for every species of midge, caddis, and stonefly. Two for mayflies. Three for spinners. His six "summer boxes" have dozens of grasshoppers with three colors of legs, ants in three shades of cinnamon, locusts (in preparation for the 17th year hatch) and billions of beetles. He has no woolly buggers. Often seen peering into small streams, exploring two-inch fingerlings with the same excitement as the Rambo type (see below) fighting a 38-inch steelhead. Sometimes dons scuba gear in two inches of water, getting animated about little pink eggs.

The Connected Crowd This is the walkie-talkie/shortwave flyfisher, possibly touting a GPS and mapping software on his car laptop or palm-sized digital assistance. If he doesn't have a fly on a line, he is researching fly fishing online, and has his browser's favorites set to every flyfishing and insect database in existence. Where spotted: steelhead streams. He needs a worthy adversary.

This one has the stalking skills of a sniper, that's why he brings a friend as a spotter with a walkie-talkie. Some may even be shortwave pirates on the lam, occasionally seen throwing dipoles in trees, launching their thoughts over USE and FM, watching their 6 for the FCC.

Rambo with a Fly Rod A very courageous trouting warrior. He has fished where no man has fished before. Has his proven steelhead flies pinned into the wall above his bed, to "impress the girls." Has been known to follow a small drainage for four days with a 50 pound pack on his back, with a compass or GPS in one hand and a fly rod in the other, catching 15-inch indigenous cutthroat trout, the color of which has never been seen before. Doesn't even have to lie as he sucks all the air out of the club house proclaiming his gift to flyfishing godliness. When not in the mountains, is sometimes seen with the Connected Crowd.

Average Joe This one has just started out fly fishing 10 years ago, dropped the sport for five years, and is picking it up again, and again, and again each season. Has 6 types of

flies, but fishes with only a Royal Wulff, but is beginning to think about bead-head nymphs. Will dutifully listen to anything you have to say about fishing, but won't understand anything you have to say about fishing. Will automatically assume you are a better fisherman and worth listening to because. . . well . . . you're the one doing all the talking and he is nice enough to not tell you to shut up.

The Terminator Has the cunning of a backyard cat. Tee shirt reads, "I practice catch and kill." Bumper sticker reads "My other car is pan-fried fish." Fish is food--no ifs, ands or buts. One thing is certain: this one is getting plenty of Omega-3 fatty acids and will outlive you or me. He wants big fish, really big fish, and catches them with one of five flies: black woolly bugger, red woolly bugger, brown woolly bugger, olive woolly bugger, and a yellow woolly bugger. Could easily beat the crap out of 12 Entomologists. Sometimes seen with the Rambo type. Show him a chironomid and he'll punch you. Mention that he should try an Ephemerella pattern, and he'll beat you up, thinking you just called him a homosexual.

No Fish Guy This is the person who is dutiful about all aspects of the sport. Practices casting on occasion, studies bugs to an extent, buys reasonable flies, kicked over a rock once to see what was underneath and then decided what he saw resembled bugs in books but nothing he or anyone else has ever tied. Catches small fish, but seems happy anyway. Also known as most everybody.

The Old Man This man fished with Theodore Gordon, so he says. He probably has. He ties Bumblepuppies, Tup Indispensables and Cock-y-bundhu patterns just for laughs and shows them to the "chironomid kids", as he calls the young kids on his once favorite lake, which he'll constantly tell you was His lake until flyfishers started becoming more numerous than the midges. Being resourceful with materials at hand when need be, he has been known to tie with dog hair, but mainly ties with starling wings and bizarre parts of mammals and birds from English parts of the world. Sometimes found crouching next to a stream tossing ancient flies to a trout named George, who has been caught and released hundreds of times with the old man's flies. The fish will soon die of old age or boredom.

The Agnostic For him there are no fish here, no fish there, no fish anywhere. When confronted with an unsuccessful day of fishing, he assumes the fish weren't present. Sometimes suspects winter kill or human intervention. If it's true that 10 percent of the fishermen are catching 90 percent of the trout, then the Agnostic assumes the remaining 90 percent of the fishermen are catching not much more than nothing (and probably using attractors).

Disturbingly familiar person. Though not to be confused with you or me.

The Shop Guy This person has the finest flies, all tied by people who don't fish and who live in countries not easily pronounced. Easily recognized by the plethora of clothes and gear more expensive than the cheap stuff you have. Sometimes donning the latest design in fly vest/bag combinations complete with hydration system and possibly a radio, if not a GPS. Knows the cfs of every river and creek within a thousand miles. By definition, shop people are very nice people, but like many, won't shut up. Can sometimes be seen with the Connected Crowd.

The Woolly Bugger Guy Has only one fly box. Doesn't like the fact that 90 percent of the fish are caught by 10 percent of the flyfishers, and plans to do something about this with woolly buggers. Ten percent of the flyfishers are getting really pissed.

The Paranoid Schizophrenic He keeps a gun in his waders because, after all, "there are some strange people out here." After giving you a cautious glance, if he decides you aren't the enemy, he'll talk your head off. Commiserate with him on all issues, or you're fish bait.

The Well-Traveled Angler This one has been on every stream in every continent on the earth. He has fished in more places with unpronounceable names than you can find in an atlas or online. "Then there was the wild anadromous brook trout in Lake Abacikerizeryz on the northern ridge of the Ural mountains in Russia. You won't find that place even on the internet." He would rather talk your ear raw than fish. A great fisherman. Just ask him.

The Beginner After talking to the Shop Guy, this one appears on the stream with half-a-shop worth of gear: Gortex hat, coat, gloves, vest, underwear; fly rods named after exotic metals and polymers and geometric shapes; boots that actually fit well and don a podiatrist's endorsement; flies beautifully tied (unlike the crap you and I tie) by people in countries who are in the news a little too often for vague political reasons. Sometimes seen fighting a fish bigger than you and I will ever hope to catch, running up and down the river like he has just stuck the devil. Damn it.

Little Girls and Boys Will stand on the edge of a lake as patient as a young tree. Staring at a metronome would be more stimulating than looking at them casting. For kids, fly fishing is fly casting, especially false casting. Don't giggle too much. With enough time, they will eventually catch a big fish on the most technical water in three states. Of course, they will love to learn more about flyfishing from you. Act intelligent around them. Someday, if not now, they will become better than you in most ways that are important.

The Other Guy Stands in the middle of the stream, not fishing. Not doing anything. Just staring at the edge of the stream. Looks around more than fishes. Bends down on occasion. If you are lucky, you'll see him raise his arm for a

single cast toward a crease in the current only he, the fish and a nearby rock know about, and then catches the largest fish in three states. He knows you're watching. He knows what fly you are going to use before you do. The only reason you see him is that he probably allowed it. Don't bother being like him. You can't.

The Liar Talks a lot. Fishes little. Needs more friends than fish. You don't need friends. You need to fish.

The Drunken Flyfisher A member of the Liar Crowd. Also a member of the Woolly Bugger Crowd. Has been seen with Rambo types. They catch more and bigger fish than you and I do.

The Hummer Guy Can blaze a trail to the last pristine lake in five states with a simple axle shift. Be careful, though; he could also be a member of the Drunken Flyfisher, the Liar, the Rambo, or the Woolly Bugger Crowds. Fishes with dry flies the size of a small bird. Catches fish the size of a small whale.

The Girlfriend Doesn't have a clue how to impart the kind of precise action to a fly that took you 15 years to learn. Doesn't understand mayfly entomology. Thinks a spinner is something you do in the parking lot. A nymph is something she'd rather not talk about. Catches more fish than you do. Don't get her started on fly fishing. Has tendency to learn quicker than you did, and manages to stay put long enough on the edge of a stream and catch the fish you missed.

The Morally Superior Doesn't even fish. Don't talk to him. When he asks why you hurt fish, tell him "I fish; therefore I am." Be careful, though. He may be right. If a fish ever spoke one word to me, I'd hang up my gear for life.

Former Presidents Write books that publishers are obliged to publish--or else! Often seen with unseen dark figures. Don't walk up to such people and ask how the fishing is going, or you'll be staring at a Glock.

The Flyfishing Worm Slinger Fishes with bait at the end of a fly line. Easily spotted by his casting style, which consists of a kind of lobbing stroke one would use to cast a tomato. Easily confused with the Rambo type, but generally smaller in build. Don't get mad. Get even. Tie a piece of red yam on your hook and fish it like a worm. Tell yourself it's a leech if this bothers you.

The Elated One Sees poetry in everything. Irony is afoot. The rising fish and the bent supplicant branches are messages only he can decipher. Just say Hello and walk on. Or introduce him to the Terminator.

The e-Bay Flyfisher Approaches the sport a little more carefully, knowing that anything bought on e-Bay will be cheap and of the highest quality, even if it never arrives. A frugal bargain hunter on e-bay will typically own the most expensive equipment but somehow still look uncomfortable in his new trappings, sort of like a hobo trying to look well-heeled in an Armani that he found rooted in a dumpster. Any resemblance of the above to actual people you've met is entirely possible, but probably coincidental and imaginary.

MVFF Monthly Events Calendar*

Month	Events	Trips	General Club Meeting Topic/Speaker	Clinics or Lease Projects
March 2005	Liars & Tiers 31 Mar. Wooly Worm		14 Mar. Yucatan Fishing with Al Trompler	Peñasco Improvement Project NM Trout Fly Tying Symposium- Mar 26, Sandia Prep School, Albuquerque
April	Liars & Tiers 20 Apr. Elk Hair Caddis		11 Apr. Fishing the San Juan with Jude Duran	Fish stocking at Lease Kids Fishing Clinic-April 23
May	Liars & Tiers 26 May Prepping for San Juan		9 May Dr. Colleen Caldwell on Whirling Disease	
June	Liars & Tiers 30 Jun.	San Juan Trip Jun 24-26	No general membership meeting.	
July	Liars & Tiers 28 Jul.		No general membership meeting.	
August	Liars & Tiers 17 Aug. (Wed)		8 Aug. George Sanders - Flyfishing in Big Sky country.	
September	Liars & Tiers 29 Sep.		No general membership meeting - picnic instead.	Sept. 10 Annual Picnic & Raffle
October		San Juan Trip Oct. 7-9	10 Oct. Kodiak Gang will give presentation on flyfishing for silver salmon.	29 Oct. Fish Stocking at the Lease
November	Liars & Tiers 16 Nov. (Wed.)		14 Nov Taylor Streit - NM guide will speak on "Fishing Northern NM and Argentina."	
December 2005	Liars & Tiers Meeting has been cancelled.		12 Dec. Dr. David Cawley - Fishes of the Rio Bonito, tributary of the Rio Yaqui, Mexico	
January 2006	Liars & Tiers 26 Jan.		No general membership meeting 28 Jan. 6 pm MVFF Banquet	NM Trout Conclave - 21 Jan.
February	Liars & Tiers 23 Feb.		13 Feb.	

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

Membership and Lease Information

Permits to fish the Club leased waters can be obtained from any of the Club Officers or Board Members and are also available at the Angler's Nook. Cost is \$20.00 per day with student permits (12 or over) costing 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.
Attn: Membership
P.O. 2222, Las Cruces, NM 88004-2222
Membership Application
(Please print clearly)

NAME: _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____

Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Membership Status: (check one) Regular (\$20) _____ Family (\$25) _____

Membership Status: (check one) Renewal _____ New _____

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



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

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 1136
LAS CRUCES, NM

Next Meeting:

Annual Potluck Banquet

University United Methodist Church
2000 Locust Street, Las Cruces, NM

January 28 - 6:00 PM