

Tale Waters

January 2010



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

Website: www.MVFF.org

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Membership Meeting

There will be no monthly membership meeting in January. Instead there will be the annual banquet on 16 Jan. See the article on page 2 for details.

Executive Board Meeting

Monday, 11 January

The MVFF Executive Board will meet on Monday 11 January at 7:00 PM at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. All members are welcome to attend.

Liars and Tyers

Thursday, 29 January

Liars and Tyers will meet Thursday 29 January at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room starting at 7:00 PM. The group will be tying the *BLM Nymph*. The tying session will be led by Tim Mack. Tim manages the ATF flyshop in El Paso and is an accomplished tyer. 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



Happy New Year! The 2009 fishing year ended for George Sanders and me with a quick trip to the San Juan, missing the storm that hit the southern half of the

State to find better weather and happy, hungry fish waiting for us up North, and returning before the New Year's Eve ball drop. I've really grown fond of these "bonus days" that winter fishing can provide, and I can't think of a better way to burn off those extra holiday calories.

In preparation for the Annual Banquet January 16th, I've started collecting pictures from 2009 fishing trips and MVFF activities for a visual montage and invite you all to send me any pictures you'd like included to: jarterbu@nmsu.edu.

This was an exciting, busy year for the club, and it's been a pleasure to be part of an organization that involves so many fine individuals who share the passion for fly fishing, and believe in the educational, environmental and emotional healing values of this sport. Club members participated in habitat improvement projects, contributed to a series of kid's fishing clinics around the State, and the Project Healing Waters volunteers worked with several groups of soldiers. The monthly meetings featured presentations on native trout recovery efforts and fishing opportunities in a variety of waters in northern NM and across the region, including the Conejos, Green, Gunnison, San Juan, and the Texas Coast. The club organized several fishing trips in 2009, helped supplement the cost for guides on the San Juan trip, provided additional instruction in fly tying, casting clinics, offered workshops on basic knots and rigging, and the MVFF Lady Anglers group organized a successful outing to fish the Pecos.

Bob Silver will be taking the MVFF Presidential reins for 2010 and the Executive Board is gearing up with much more to come, extending and expanding on this year's accomplishments. Some things to look forward to include more workshops on casting and fly fishing techniques, habitat improvement projects on the Peñasco and Gila watershed, a program and club trip focusing on fishing for NM tiger muskies, and special trips for the Lady Anglers. There's been some interest in starting a fly fishing mentor program, and offering more fly fishing classes to help beginning anglers get started. If any of these are interesting to you, please let us know and we will try to accommodate everyone's schedules. Likewise, if there is some aspect of fly fishing you'd like the club to cover, or if you are willing to contribute by sharing some of your experience and expertise, we would be very happy to facilitate this. Everything that happens in this club results from the time and effort of dedicated volunteer members, and all members are invited to attend the monthly executive board meetings where most of the organizational planning takes place.

The speaker for the Jan 16th Annual Banquet will be Carole Katz, a tournament fly caster, member of the National Board of Trustees and the Southwest Regional Coordinator for Project Healing Waters program in AZ, CA, HI, NM, NV, and UT. We have assembled the best group of prizes ever for the fundraising raffle, so make sure you get your \$5 tickets submitted for the drawing, whether or not you are able to attend the banquet. There will also be great door prizes and a special fundraiser for PHW, so we hope you and your families and friends can attend. Bring a side dish or dessert to share, and enjoy a great presentation and the camaraderie of the evening.

I hope to see you streamside.

Jeff

Election Results

During the board meeting on December 21st 2009, board members canvassed the election results and declared the following members elected as board members: Paul Turner, Jeff Arterburn, Chuck Mueller,

Gary Mann, George Sanders, Jim Sorenson, Bob Silver, George Thomas and Randall Vallee.

Then in accordance with club by-laws, board members selected as officers: president - Bob Silver, vice-president - Chuck Mueller, secretary - Jim Sorenson and treasurer - Gary Mann.

Annual Club Banquet

Saturday, 16 January 2010

Our annual banquet will be Saturday, January 16, 2010. The banquet will start at 6:00pm at St Paul's Methodist Church, which is where we had it last year (see map on page 3). Spouses and children are invited.

The speaker will be Carole Katz, a tournament fly caster, member of the National Board of Trustees and the Southwest Regional Coordinator for Project Healing Waters program in AZ, CA, HI, NM, NV, and UT.

The club will provide BBQ brisket, pulled pork, sausage and drinks, with members asked to bring salads and desserts. A raffle will take place during the dinner. This raffle is probably the richest we have ever had. There are many top-of-the-line items. See the list of prizes in the following article. Raffle tickets and information will follow in a separate communication.

Raffle Items

Here's the list of prizes for this years MVFF Banquet Jan 16th.

Door Prizes (must be present to win):

1. TFO Casting For Recovery Rod (8' 6", 5 wt, 4 pc)
2. Fishpond Waterdance Guide Pack
3. Flowers and Fly's table decorations
4. other small prizes and donated items may be included

The 2009 MVFF Attendance drawing winner, taken from the ticket stubs for meetings and formal club events collected through the year, will receive the Conejos River Angler's guided trip for two.

Ron Bellerose will be running a separate raffle for the TFO Project Healing Waters Rod (9', 5 wt).

The Fund Raiser Raffle includes the seven high value prizes listed on the ticket stub:

- 1. Winston Bllx rod (9', 6wt, 4pc)
- 2. Sage TXL rod (7' 10", 3 wt, 3pc)
- 3. Lamson Litespeed Reel and Spool (model 2)
- 4. Ross Evolution Reel (model 1)
- 5. Galvan RG P-6 Push Reel
- 6. Simm's certificate for G3 Stockingfoot Waders
- 7. Fishpond Double Haul pack-vest

for the raffle. Tickets will be sold at the banquet only and you must be present to win.

For more information about PHWFF see www.projecthealingwaters.org.

Contact Ron Bellerose (575-680-5516), roncor@hotmail.com) if you wish to volunteer to help out.



Ron Bellerose

PHW Coordinator



We will be starting our next session of Intro to fly fishing for the Vets at Ft. Bliss on Thursday, January 28 (changed from 22 Jan.) with fly tying and knots. It is expected to be held at the NMG&F conference room, same as last time. I am in hopes of getting several Vet Reps from the area to attend our annual banquet in January. There will be a special PHW raffle at the banquet, the money to be used for PHW events. We will have a TFO special Project Healing Waters fly rod

Club Outings Planned

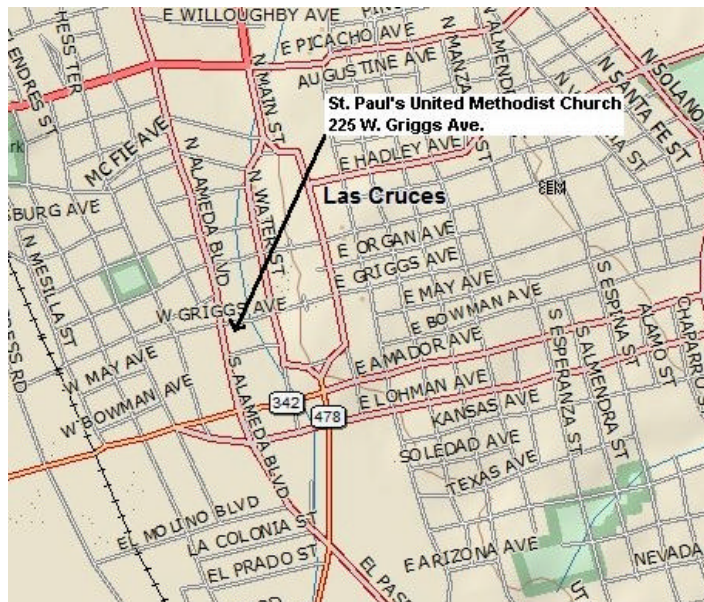
The board is now discussing possible outings for 2010 and would welcome suggestions from members. Where do you want to go? Let us know. If you have comments or suggestions for additional trips pass them to George Sanders, (575) 527-5536, chairman of the "Outings" committee.

- Spring - Quemado Lake
- October - San Juan

Welcome New Members

Mike Engleman	Las Cruces, NM
Larry Hines	Las Cruces, NM
Don & Robin Parks	Lubbock, TX
David Schoep	Las Cruces, NM
Nancy Simmons	Las Cruces, NM
Randy Tettleton	Las Cruces, NM

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Map showing location for Banquet.



BLM Nymph

The center of attention for the Liars and Tyers this month will be the *BLM (Beaded Little Mayfly) Nymph*.

Developed by Tim Heng, previous manager of Taylor Creek Fly Shop, the *BLM (Beaded Little Mayfly)* is one of the most effective little mayfly/midge imitations ever. A thorax style bead with just the right amount

of material - deadly. Great early and late in the season. The BLM was awarded the fly of the year in 2002 by Flyfisherman Magazine.

Tim says he uses this fly at the Lease when the water is off. "All the flash this fly has, really attracts the fish."



- Hook: TMC 3761 #16 to #20
- Thread: Olive or Brown Uni 8/0
- Tail: Angel Hair peacock or brown olive
- Body: same as tail
- Rib: Uni-Wire copper Brassie or Small
- Throax: Copper bead 3/32"
- Wing case: same as tail
- Legs: same as tail



MVFF Monthly Events Calendar

Month	Events	Trips	General Club Meeting Topic/Speaker	Clinics or Lease Projects
January 2010	Liars & Tyers 28 Jan. <i>BLM Nymph</i>		No general meeting - banquet instead - 16 Jan. Speaker - Carol Katz from Project Healing Waters	28 Jan. - PHW - Fly tying and knots - NMDG&F 30 Jan. - NM Trout Conclave 2010
February	Liars & Tyers 25 Feb.		15 Feb. - program tbd	



Winter Fishing on the San Juan



MVFF Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 21, 2009

Submitted by Donna Mabie, Secretary

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

In attendance were Jeff Arterburn, Tom Wobbe, Robert Silver, Gary Sanders, Donna Mabie, George Thomas, and non-Board members Jim Hulsey, Ron Bellerose and Chuck Mueller.

1. Minutes of the November Board Meeting were approved as published in the December 2009 newsletter.
2. The Treasurer's report presented by Tom Wobbe in Gary Mann's absence was approved. The Report shows the Club to have a balance of \$11,696.00.
3. Ron Bellerose reported on the status of Project Healing Waters and also presented for discussion a programs scheduling difficulty.
4. Tom Wobbe reported that there are 223 paid-up members.
5. The Board certified the election of directors to serve for 2010. Elected were Jeff Arterburn, Bob Silver, Chuck Mueller, Paul Turner, Jim Sorenson, Gary Mann, George Sanders, George Thomas and Randall Vallee.
6. The Board then selected the following people as officers: Bob Silver, President; Chuck Mueller, Vice-President; Gary Mann, Treasurer and Mary Hoffman, Secretary.
7. Volunteers for the various needs in preparing for the Annual Club Banquet to be held Jan. 16th were solicited and further details will be made at the next Board meeting being held on Jan. 11th.
8. Edward Enriquez was selected as the recipient for the Norman J. Mabie Scholarship award. He will be invited to attend the banquet so that a formal presentation may be made to him. The Board agreed to bring the scholarship amount up to \$500 from \$412 that is available from the fund.
9. The Board noted that not as many fishing permits were purchased recently for the lease. Continuing discussion will be held on this and also on whether to restock in the spring.
10. A suggestion was offered to use the Rio Grande River for the next casting clinic with Bob Widgren, possibly in Feb. The flowing water of the river would be more realistic to the fishing experience. Bob Silver will check into this further. Also an Introduction to Fly-Fishing Skills workshop will be scheduled sometime after the banquet.
11. Two board members suggested that the club invest the money for a good video camera for the various activities such as flytying, etc. and also put events on DVD and sell them for about \$5 as a fundraiser.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56pm.

Editor's Note: Donna added the following comments to the submitted minutes;

This is my last day as Club Secretary and I must say I am in deep awe at the diligence and devotion of the Board and non-Board members who give so much of their time and talents to make MVFF Club the success that it is. They welcome your suggestions and are so sincere in their endeavors to make the Club better than ever.

A Fly Fishing Wedding and Honeymoon

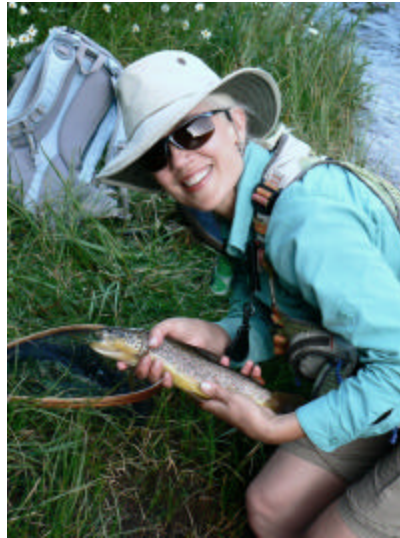
July-August 2009

David Carmichael

Miriam and I tied the knot over the summer; not the Improved Clinch or the Duncan Loop, but the matrimonial. And then we tied those others as well. Much of our courtship took place on the water, so having an outdoor wedding alongside a trout stream was an easy call. However, most of the places we fish involve a bit of hiking, so in the interests of actually having family attend the wedding, we had the ceremony in Two Rivers Park, along the Rio Ruidoso. With the river gurgling in the background, we spoke of sparkling riffles, the intertwining of currents and families, and of the joining of our spirits that happened while fly fishing. My barbershop quartet, the Rogues of the Rio Grande, sang love songs, and Miriam recited a poem she wrote entitled "Everything We Needed to Know about Each Other We Learned on a Trout Stream." [No, we didn't get married in waders, although my mother-in-law suggested we do so!] After spending a few days with family and out of town guests, we embarked on a three week fly fishing honeymoon to some famous and wonderful fly fishing waters.

First it was off to visit friends near Aspen, where we spent a few days on the Roaring Fork and the Frying Pan Rivers. One afternoon we caught 13 trout, mostly browns,

including several in the 16-18" range. I netted a heavy 22 inch rainbow caught on a yellow stimulator in a small eddy tucked against a beaver dam on the Frying Pan. It was sweet because I'd hooked that fish last March but I broke my rod and never landed it; I certainly never expected a second chance. That could have been the catch of the year for me (not counting Miriam of course), but then we drove to Yellowstone country.



Nice Frying Pan Brown



Somewhere along the Gardner River,
Yellowstone National Park

Despite the summer crowds, we were able to find stretches of water offering real solitude, and we had some truly remarkable fishing. Even though we were too late for the salmon fly hatch and a bit early for

the hopper action (why didn't we plan the wedding date better?), we still experienced fantastic fishing. Our first fishing day in the park was with guide Richard Parks, owner of Parks' Fly Shop in Gardiner, MT, and author of *Fly Fishing Yellowstone Park*.

Richard's wife Nancy runs the quaint and affordable B&B where we stayed for a couple of nights before camping out in the northeast portion of the park. We highly recommend staying and fishing with the Richard and Nancy if you don't want to camp, or are traveling on a budget. The breakfasts were great, the fishing information spot on, and their place is across the street from a grill that cooks amazing 3-inch thick bison steaks.

Richard took us to a little-visited portion of the Gardner River, and Miriam and I caught and released a total of 113 trout in about 5 hours. They weren't huge (the largest was 12") but the location was magnificent and the action exciting. The next day we were on our own and visiting other, heavily fished waters in the northeastern portion of Yellowstone, including Soda Butte Creek, the Lamar River and the lower Gardner.

According to local anglers, fishing was generally slow on those waters because of unseasonably high temperatures, but we did well and caught 30-40 trout, including some Yellowstone cutthroat in the 13-15" class. On another afternoon we fished the lower Gardner using #10 yellow foam hoppers which turned out to be good imitations of a sparse yellow stone fly hatch. It's a good thing we don't live closer to Yellowstone, or I'd never get any work done... or

I'd have to change jobs so I could explore all those amazing streams and rivers. There will definitely be a return trip some day. Club trip anyone?

After leaving Yellowstone we camped on Rock Creek, a blue ribbon trout stream and tributary of the Clark Fork near Missoula, and then drove on to visit relatives in Seattle. The relatives decided to arrange a salmon fishing charter trip out of Westport, WA as a wedding present for us. I was hoping estuary; they were thinking deep sea... While I spent most of the day standing at the rail being sick, Miriam landed

four beautiful Coho salmon in the 10 pound class, her first salmon ever! One was a wild fish that had to be released, but the other three were returning hatchery fish that were harvested. After giving one to our hosts, sharing one with friends in Portland, OR, and shipping the other one home on ice, we made our way south to Yosemite National Park and some more beautiful fishing waters.

The Yosemite Valley was a zoo, full of tour buses and crowds of vehicles. After hiking to waterfalls, admiring Half Dome and eating an exquisite gourmet dinner of rainbow trout almondine, we left the valley behind and camped at Tuolumne Meadows in the northeast corner of the park. The high country, as

it is called, is like another world. We camped at Tuolumne Meadows Inn, a fancy name for a group of canvas tents with cots and wood burning stoves. Camping areas are limited in Yosemite because of the large numbers of visitors and the dangers of bear encounters; the camps are

both expensive and fully booked months in advance. Fortunately, we had reservations and stayed a few steps away from the Dana Fork of Tuolumne Creek, the same water featured in an article by Kenny Clark in a recent issue of Fly Fisherman magazine. We found the fishing to be even better than he described, and certainly better than what locals told us. One of the camp employees said the creek wouldn't be fishing well because the water was too low; he suggested the headwater lakes instead. But, he was talking about bait and spinner fishing.



Two of Miriam's Coho salmon

The Dana Fork is a delightful piece of water, and Miriam and I caught 20 trout in a 100 yard stretch in a couple of hours before dinner one evening, including browns, rainbows and brookies in the 10-12 inch range. The hatches were



The Dana Fork of the Tuolumne River

modest but more varied than what was described by Clarke. We did well with elk hair caddis, Griffith's gnat, little yellow sally, PMD and several different small dark nymph patterns that were effective imitations of mosquito larvae. We didn't see any other anglers during our visit to Yosemite.

If one takes the east exit from the park, there are several US Forest Service campsites near the National Park, and they were not crowded. More importantly, the East Walker River

is just up the road near Lee Vining. Unfortunately, we didn't have time to fish the Walker, so I guess we'll have to make our way back to the Eastern Sierra too. So many waters, so little time...

Quick Look Contact Information

2010 Officers of the Club	
Officers	
• President:	Bob Silver (575) 522-6325
• V-Pres.:	Chuck Mueller (575) 647-4045
• Secretary:	Jim Sorenson (575) 525-1050
• 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:	George Thomas (575) 532-5614
• Position 5:	George Sanders (575) 527-5536
• Position 6:	Chuck Mueller (575) 647-4045
• Position 7:	Bob Silver (575) 522-6325
• Position 8:	Gary Mann (575) 521-7793
• Position 9:	Randall Vallee (575) 373-9470
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	
Total	\$11,003
Earnings available	410

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.

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.



***** 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.

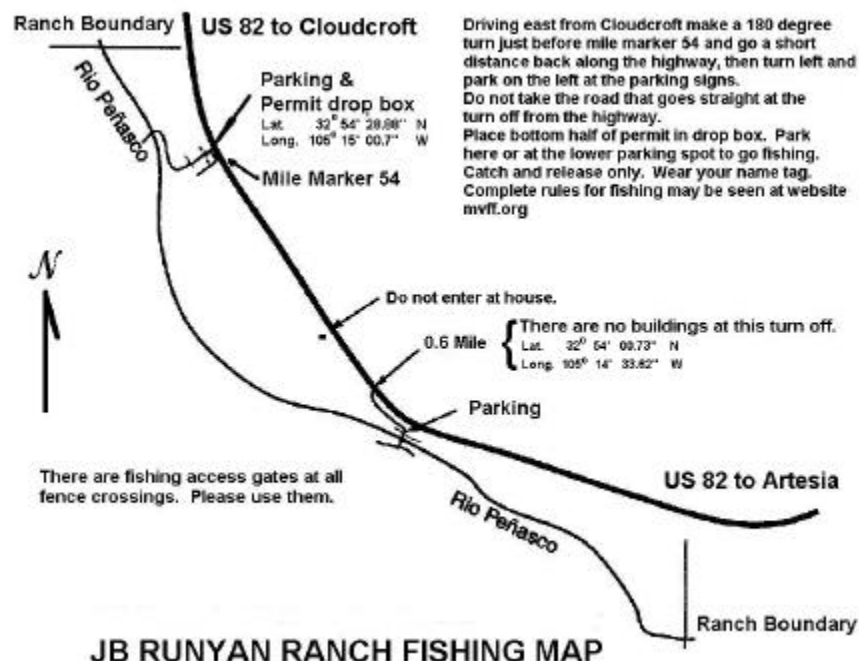
1 Year	\$20	Individual
	\$25	Family
3 Years	\$50	Individual
	\$60	Family
Life	\$400	Individual
	\$500	Family

Lease Information

Permits to fish the Club leased waters on the Rio Peñasco can be obtained from 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.