

# Tale Waters

March 2005



*A Federation of Fly Fishers Club*

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

**Website: [www.MVFF.org](http://www.MVFF.org)**

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## YUCATAN FLY FISHING with Al Trompler - March 14

Our very own member, Al Trompler will give a presentation at the March 8 meeting on his recent trip to the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico, fly fishing for Tarpon, Permit and Bonefish. Al's presentation will include slides and the flies used during his trip.

As you may remember, Al's previous presentation on Kodiak Island Silver Salmon Fishing resulted in eight club members making the Kodiak trip with Al's mentoring and guidance on flies, equipment, lodging and other details. Don't miss out on this presentation to hear and learn more about coast of Mexico fly fishing. You never know, it may result in a future club trip!

## JUDE DURAN SAN JUAN FLY FISHING GUIDE

### April 11<sup>th</sup> - Guest Speaker

Jude Duran, a San Juan River fly fishing guide, commercial fly fier, and fly fishing instructor will

discuss fly fishing micro patterns in the famous San Juan River tail water and in other rivers and lakes where these tiny (size 18-26) flies are predominant. He will describe the most effective techniques for fishing small flies, setting up and casting double-fly nymph rigs, strike indicators, reading the water and review the best patterns to imitate these small insects. Don't miss this one!

## KIDS FISHING CLINIC

### APRIL 23

The Annual Kids Fishing Clinic sponsored by MVFF, New Mexico Game & Fish, and this year's addition, Wal-Mart, will take place Saturday, April 23 at the Aggie Alumni pond on the NMSU campus. The event will start at 9:00 am with club members requested to arrive by 8:00 am to help set up. NMG&F will arrange for trout to be stocked for the event. Kids 6-11 years old may fish free, however those 12 or older must have a New Mexico fishing license. All kids must register for the event at the NMG&F office, 2715 Northrise Drive or by calling 532-2100.

## Rio Peñasco Stream Improvement

### A VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

WE had 8 members who came up to work on the Rio Peñasco Project on Feb 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>. The volunteers who worked on Saturday were Tom Wobbe, Jim Hulsey, Bob Pridgen, Ron Bellerose, Al Trompler, Paul Turner, Clinton Woodward and Gary Fonay. Members returning Sunday were Bob Pridgen, Paul Turner, Jim Hulsey and Tom Wobbe.

We were able to complete a third baffle and planted willows and repaired a section of fence. We have two more baffles to complete and more willows and cottonwoods to plant. We could complete most of the remaining work in two more trips if more volunteers can come to help with the project. Remember,

everyone that comes to the project will be given a chance to win a fly rod.

Please contact Tom Wobbe at 505-522-5437 or e-mail him at [president@mvff.org](mailto:president@mvff.org) if you can assist with

this project. We will contact those people who had registered earlier with the next work date.

## RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUE MARCH 31

### Presidents Corner

It's almost March already, so it's time for yard work, spring gardening, spring cleaning, the honey do's and "yahoo" spring fishing! Besides your fishing trips we have several upcoming club activities that your participation would be very helpful and appreciated. During March we will be completing the current phase of the Rio Peñasco Stream Improvement Project, in April we have our annual Kids Fishing Clinic, and May we plan to have a club outing to the San Juan.

This past weekend several members made the trip to the Rio Peñasco Lease to work on the stream improvement project. I must say this project could use a few more volunteers, so if you can assist please do so. It is easy to see that the stream should benefit from this project and improve future fishing.

We will need 8-10 members to help out with the **Kids Fishing Clinic**, which can be a fun activity for both the kids and club members. If you can volunteer for this event please contact Jim Hulsey at 524-1880 or e-mail at [jhulsey@zianet.com](mailto:jhulsey@zianet.com).

We have an outstanding schedule of guest speakers for the next few months so mark your calendar and don't miss out on Al Trompler's "Yucatan Fishing Trip", Jude Duran's "Fishing Outside the Box - Fly Fishing the San Juan River", and Steve Robbin's "How to Match the Hatch" presentations. Jude, a noted guide on the San Juan at ([www.customflies.com](http://www.customflies.com)), has excellent knowledge of San Juan River Fly Fishing, and Steve Robbins is a Fly Fishing Instructor at Tyler Junior College in Tyler, Tx.

Good Fishing,  
Tom

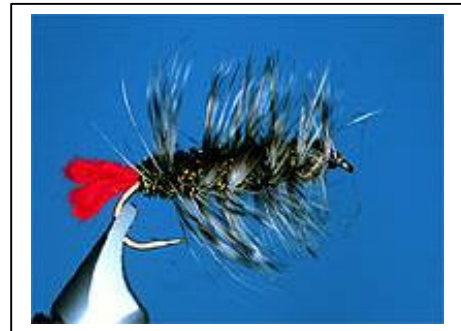
### Liars and Tiers

**Thurs-Mar. 31**

Liars and Tiers is held on the last Thursday of each month at the New Mexico Game and Fish offices starting at 6:30 pm. We will be tying Wooly Worm flies at the next session. Don't miss out. Extra vises and supplies available for beginning tiers.

List of Materials:

- Hook: Turned Down Eye (size 6-10)
- Thread: Black
- Tail: Red Cock Hackle Feathers
- Body: Chenile (black)
- Hackle: Grizzle (palmered)
- Head: Black



**Quick Look Contact Information****2005 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
- George O'Connor (915) 584-9318
- Bob Silver (505) 522-6325
- Jim Hulsey (505) 524-1880

**Newsletter Editor**

- Bob Silver (505) 522-6325

Thomas Morris - Las Cruces, NM  
 Michael LaChance - Capitan, NM  
 Luis Vargus, - El Paso, Tx

## Changes to Membership Expiration

### Membership Dues are due March 31

In January 2005, the Board changed the membership expiration dates in order to make the process of keeping the records more efficient. Updating the membership records each month is a substantial task; therefore, we want to try a different approach by having all memberships expire on the same date. Starting in 2005, all memberships will expire each March 31. 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 31, 2005 will not expire until March 31, 2006.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new members who have joined **MVFF** during the last few months.

Ramsey Fowler - Odessa, Tx  
 Ron Maison Jr. - Greenville, Pa  
 Ron Maison Sr. - Greenville Pa  
 Jack Wheeler - Alamogordo, NM  
 John Jacobs - Las Cruces, NM  
 Rudy & Aleta Saucedo - Las Cruces, NM  
 Mike Barrett - Las Cruces, NM  
 Luis T. Sanchez - El Paso, Tx  
 Luis Sanchez II - El Paso, Tx  
 Jack & Pat Arrington - Las Cruces, NM  
 Don Harridge - Seminolee, Tx  
 Adrian, Celso & Roman Rico - El Paso, Tx  
 Joel & Amy Holguin - Las Cruces, NM  
 Don Fritz - Lubbock, Tx  
 Mati Fritz - Dallas, Tx  
 Seth Davis - Andrews, Tx  
 David Certain - Las Cruces, NM  
 Bill Zeedyk - Sandia Park, NM  
 Jim Sharp - Las Cruces, NM  
 Sam Kuntz - Las Cruces, NM  
 Kevin Roberts - Las Cruces, NM  
 Tom Mahony - Fort Worth, Tx  
 Bob Schoener - Las Cruces, NM

## Norm's Shop is Open

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 by Joseph Lopez

If you are interested in learning how to tie flies Joseph 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. Joseph just moved back to the area. Give him a try!

## New Mexico Trout Fly Tying Symposium- March 26

The New Mexico Trout organization would like to invite everyone to attend their inaugural fly tying

symposium. The symposium will feature 38 tiers from across New Mexico, Colorado, Nevada and Nebraska.

There will be something for everyone, whether you are an experienced tier or have never tied a fly. You can sit face to face with the tiers and observe their patterns, techniques and materials. Whiting Farms has donated Whiting 100's packs for the first 100 people through the door. For further info refer to their website [www.newmexicotrout.org](http://www.newmexicotrout.org) or contact John Gordon at 505-797-9940.

Cost: Children 15 & under are free. NM Trout members \$5, and \$7 for non-members.

Location: Sandia Prep School, 532 Osuna Road, Albuquerque, NM

Time: 9:00am-1:00pm Door prizes given away at 1:00pm

### The Norm Mabie Endowment Fund

The scholarship has been named in honor of Norm Mabie. The NMSU Scholarship 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 Scholarship 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 \$3,075. We have a long way to go.

### Useful websites for fishing in New Mexico

#### [www.flyfishnm.com](http://www.flyfishnm.com)

This website has been online since 1998 and contains a wealth of information about fishing northern New Mexico watersheds. Featured on this site are nine watersheds: Jemez, (Upper) Pecos, (Upper) Red River, Red River/Rio Grande Box, (Lower) Rio Grande, Cimarron, Rio de Los Pinos, Chama/Brazos, and San Juan River. If you want to know where to go, see maps.

#### [www.ifly4trout.com](http://www.ifly4trout.com)

For the San Juan River, Mike Mora's website is a wealth of information. This site is dedicated to sharing helpful information on the San Juan River and related fly fishing and fly tying resources. Within the site you'll find fishing reports, information on hatches, fly patterns, tips & techniques, the latest news, FAQs and answers, an informative discussion board, fishing photos, guide services and lodging information. Browse around and find out why so many fishermen from around the world are attracted to fly fishing the San Juan River.

### 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 print that is 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

\*See PAGE 3 ARTICLE- if you paid between Jan 1 and March 31, 2005 your membership will continue until March 31, 2006

**BITCH CREEK NYMPH**

By Bob Bates

This fly of the month was taken from the FFF website.

The Bitch Creek Nymph is an old standby pattern for many anglers. Most say that it is a stonefly nymph imitation, but others use it as a searching or attractor pattern. The real history behind this pattern is unknown according to the my books. George F. Grant in *Montana Trout Flies, 1981*, wrote that he couldn't find a reference to it "...but there is little doubt but that the pattern is of Montana origin." He also commented: "It is difficult to establish whether or not the 'Bitch Creek' was the first of the large Montana nymph patterns to employ rubber appendages, but it is a trend that is becoming increasingly evident."

Fishing the Bitch Creek Nymph calls for letting it sink to or near the bottom. In fast moving streams, make a short cast upstream and let the fly sink as it comes downstream. Keep control of the line so you can feel the strike. During high water times look for backwater and side channels where the visibility for fish might be a little better than in the main flow. Also it will be a bit easier to put the fly near the bottom slower water.

Some fly anglers will throw a Bitch Creek Nymph when other lake flies aren't performing. Generally, a full sinking line is used, but in shallow water use a floating line so the fly doesn't sink too deeply. Whether it is color or wiggling legs is unknown, but fish like it and will strike.

**Hook:** Mustad 9672 or 79580, 2-12**Thread:** Black 3/0**Antenna & tail:** White rubber**Weight:** Lead-free wire, about the same diameter as wire in hook (optional)**Rib:** Yellow monocord (optional)**Back (overlay):** Black chenille**Body:** Orange or yellow chenille**Hackle:** Brown**Gills:** White ostrich herl (optional)**Thorax:** Black chenille**Tying Steps:**

This recipe and tying style is slightly different from ones you will find in some pattern books. Several books recommend a braided chenille body, but for many tiers this is too much work. And if you really want to cheat (or be lazy) you can wind the orange chenille and paint the back with a black waterproof felt pen.

1. Smash down the barb before you start tying if you wish.
2. Start the thread anywhere you want and wind it forward to the eye. Fold a full length piece of rubber in half and place the open ends on top of the shank and sticking out over the eye less than a shank length. Secure them with several thread wraps. Now pull and stretch the loop portion, and wind thread over it to bend. A couple thread wraps will set the tail rubber; trim excess. Leave thread at bend.
3. It is optional, but my Bitch Creek Nymphs are weighted under the thorax. I like lead-free wire on spools because I feel it is easier to control. Hold spool in the palm of your hand and place end of wire across the shank where you want the back of the coil. Wrap a tight coil forward letting the wire slip through your fingers as needed. Break off or cut wire. Be sure to leave two eye widths of space between eye and front of coil to tie in several materials. Wind thread over the coil to hold it in place. Make a thread ramp at front and back of coil. Return thread to bend.
4. Attach rib, black chenille and orange chenille, and wind thread to mid-shank. Before attaching the chenille, strip off the fuzzy stuff and secure chenille by thread core. The black chenille should be on top of the hook. Wrap orange chenille to mid-shank, secure and trim. Bring black chenille over the orange chenille, secure at mid-shank and trim. Spiral rib forward, secure and trim. A rib helps secure the black chenille overlay.
5. Some tiers leave the black chenille and use it for the thorax. However, I frequently tie on one size larger chenille for the thorax unless I wrapped a lot of wire under the thorax.
6. Attach hackle, ostrich herl and black chenille at front of body. Wind thread forward to about one eye width from eye, wrap chenille (with first wrap tight against front of body) forward, secure and trim. Hold hackle and herl together and spiral them through the chenille, secure at front of thorax and trim. Modern saddle hackles are good for this because they are long enough to be held in the fingers.
7. Shape head, whip finish and add a drop of head cement to guarantee the thread doesn't slip.

## 2005 MVFF Monthly Events Calendar\*

Month	Events	Trips	General Club Meeting Topic/Speaker	Clinics or Lease Projects
January	Liars & Tiers 27 Jan.		22 Jan. 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 Feb. Alaska Fishing with Doc Warner	Penasco Improvement Project
March	Liars & Tiers 31 Mar. Prepping for San Juan		14 Mar. Yucatan Fishing with Al Trompler	Penasco Improvement Project NM Trout Fly Tying Symposium- Mar 26, Sandia Prep School, Albuquerque
April	Liars & Tiers 20 Apr.		11 Apr. Fishing the San Juan with Jude Duran	<i>Fish stocking at Lease</i> Kids Fishing Day-April 23
May	Liars & Tiers 26 May	<i>San Juan Trip May 20-21</i>	9 May How to Match the Hatch with Steve Robbins of Tyler Jr. College, TX	
June	Liars & Tiers 30 Jun.		No Meeting	
July	Liars & Tiers 28 Jul.		No Meeting	
August	Liars & Tiers 25 Aug.		17 Aug. Prepping for the San Juan	
September	Liars & Tiers 29 Sep.		12 Sept.	<i>Annual Picnic and Raffle</i>
October	Liars & Tiers 27 Oct.	<i>San Juan Trip</i>	10 Oct.	<i>Casting Clinic</i>
November	Liars & Tiers 17 Nov.		14 Nov.	<i>Fish Stocking</i>
December	Liars & Tiers 29 Dec.		12 Dec.	

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

Membership and Lease Information

Please contact any of the Club 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 Hulseley. 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 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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  
PERMIT NO. 1136  
LAS CRUCES, NM

**Next Meeting:**

**New Mexico Game and Fish Office**

2715 Northrise Drive, Las Cruces, New Mexico

( next door to the Peter Piper Pizza store on the feeder road of Highway 70)

**Yucatan Fishing with Al Trompler**

**March 14 - 7:30 PM**

**Directions from I-25:**

- Exit Del Rey Blvd and follow the lane for Del Rey.
- At the Del Rey traffic intersection make a right.
- Go to the next traffic intersection and make a left at the light onto Northrise Dr.
- You should see Piper Pizza on your left and the next building is the New Mexico Game and Fish Building, 2715 Northrise Drive