

# Tale Waters

November 2009



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

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

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Membership Meeting .....	1
Executive Board Meeting .....	1
Liars & Tyers .....	1
President's Corner .....	1
NM Trout Fly Tying Symposium .....	2
Project Healing Waters .....	2
Club Outings .....	3
New Members .....	3
Tying Instructions for the <i>Black Beauty</i> .....	6
Calendar of Events .....	6
Board Meeting Minutes for October .....	7

## Membership Meeting

**Monday, 9 November**

The monthly membership meeting will be held on 9 November at 7:00pm at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. Trout Unlimited representatives William Schudlich and Greg McReynolds will give a presentation titled *New Mexico Trout Unlimited and Native Trout Recovery in New Mexico*. It promised to be very interesting and entertaining. Coffee and cookies will be served.

## Executive Board Meeting

**Monday, 16 November**

The MVFF Executive Board will meet on Monday 16 November at 7:00pm at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. All members are welcome to attend.

## Liars and Tyers

**Monday, 23 November**

Liars and Tyers will meet Monday 23 November at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room starting at 7:00pm. Note that this is a change from the usual schedule. The group will be tying the *Black Beauty*, a fly that, along with its many variants, is especially

effective in tailwaters. This is the same pattern planned for October but since that meeting wasn't held, it will be tried again. The tying session will be led by Tim Mack. Tim manages the ATF flyshop in El Paso and is an accomplished tyer. Don't miss out. Extra vises and supplies available for beginning tiers.



## President's Corner

George Sanders and I were able to catch the last couple of days of aspens in color last month in southern Colorado with hardly anyone else on the water, many having swapped waders for blaze orange and turned their attention to other pursuits. The days were shirt-sleeve comfortable but pensive with the overwhelming sense of the end of the season, and the fishing was tough but rewarded by several big colorful browns to populate our daydreams and inspire time spent at the tying vise during the next few months.

While the snows have only just recently started, I am already beginning to look forward to Spring's thaw and more habitat improvement projects in our region, particularly after having had some opportunities to fish for our native Gila trout this past year. These opportunities only exist because of the long-term sustained efforts and dedication of those individuals who have been involved in and supported the Gila trout recovery program, and we can help to continue and expand this valuable mission. The November 9<sup>th</sup> General Meeting is right on target with a presentation by Bill Schudlich and Greg McReynolds discussing NM Trout Unlimited's contributions towards native trout recovery projects in New Mexico. The mission of TU is to conserve, protect and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds, and the time is ripe for initiating a new local TU chapter to serve

the constituents in southern New Mexico and west Texas and focus organizational resources on the unique fisheries in our region.

This is an important time of the year for the club with the upcoming elections of board members, and we are always looking for members who are interested in getting more involved in club activities and serving in this function.

The holiday season also heralds the club's largest fundraising event of the year, the MVFF Raffle and Drawing that is held at the Annual Banquet in January. This year's prizes are truly outstanding, including Sage, Winston, and TFO rods, Ross, Galvan and Lamson reels, Simms waders and more! What a great deal, your raffle ticket purchases help to support club activities throughout the year and give you the opportunities to win premier fly fishing equipment. The MVFF attendance prize drawn from the ticket stubs collected at authorized club events will also be awarded at the Banquet, and this year's prize will be a guided trip for two with Conejos River Anglers. I'm going to start buying raffle tickets now, and there's still time to increase your odds in the attendance drawing so I would recommend being on time to get a seat at the November meeting!

I hope to see you streamside.

Jeff

## New Mexico Trout Fly Tying Symposium

Saturday, 5 December

New Mexico Trout's 2009 symposium will be held at Sandia Prep in Albuquerque on December 5, 2009. This year NM Trout will host over 25 professional fly tyers from Albuquerque, New Mexico and surrounding states. Stop by the 2009 Symposium to learn a new fly style, tie a new technique, or just pass the time with some old friends. There will be hot food served by Doc Rivers and his traveling Grill.

## New Mexico Trout Conclave 2010

Saturday, 30 January

January 30 2010 will be the biggest day for you to get in on some great information from Dave and Emily Whitlock. Dave is a very interesting artist, author, fly designer, speaker and a pretty darn good fisherman. He has some stories that will keep you on the hook

longer and never tire you out! Plus when he gets out of line, Emily is there to get him back on track! Dave and Emily are passionate about providing fly fishing instruction, and really enjoy tying a Whitlock Sculpin. See ya there! Another guest speaker is slated for this conclave and will be announced shortly.



Vicki Thomas, PH.D.

Clinical Coordinator, Resilience Program

*Editor's note: On 15 October, MVFF volunteers took a group of soldiers from Fort Bliss on a fishing trip to the Rio Peñasco lease as part of their PTSD rehabilitation program. The following note was received shortly afterwards from Dr. Thomas.*

Once again the day on the river was a great hit. Yesterday I asked one of the soldiers about his experience. He expressed some regret about not catching any fish but went on to talk about feeling "alive" as he played in the waterfall. I suspect some of his luck fishing was influenced by his enthusiasm about being in the mountains and his playfulness may have scared any fish in the area. I would never before have used "playful" to describe this Soldier, so I'm pleased with his reaction and hope his mentors are too.

Most of our Soldiers caught fish including a young man who had never fished before in his life. This Soldier is new to the program and initially he appeared quite reluctant to step outside his comfort zone. He had no experience fishing, few friends in the program, and I wasn't sure he would be able to relax enough to enjoy the experience. After lunch the groups started dividing up so that those with family obligations could get home. This Soldier was first in line for a seat on the van staying late for those wanting to fish for an hour or two longer. He grinned as he followed his volunteer fishing mentor to retrieve his gear, literally jumping over a low wall in his eagerness to get back to the river. I watched as he joined the other soldiers hiking down the dirt road to the river and noted that his usual hesitant movements had been replaced with energetic strides. When he

returned, he excitedly shared that he had caught "three more fish".

You have no idea how exciting it is for us to watch the changes in our Service Members when they let the experience break through their defenses. Please let all of the volunteers who share their time and expertise know how important their contributions are to us and how much we appreciate their efforts. I look forward to our next trip!

-----

For more information about PHWFF see [www.projecthealingwaters.org](http://www.projecthealingwaters.org).

Contact Ron Bellerose (575-541-0807, [roncor@hotmail.com](mailto:roncor@hotmail.com)) if you wish to volunteer to help out.

**Club Outings Planned**

The board is now discussing possible outings for 2009 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.

**Welcome New Members**

- |                           |                |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Charles & Patricia Almack | Lubbock, TX    |
| Larry Phifer              | El Paso, TX    |
| Steve & Cindy Pollock     | Las Cruces, NM |



**Project Healing Waters**



&lt;&gt; &lt;&gt; &lt;&gt; &lt;&gt; &lt;&gt; &lt;&gt; &lt;&gt; &lt;&gt; &lt;&gt; &lt;&gt; &lt;&gt; &lt;&gt; &lt;&gt; &lt;&gt; &lt;&gt; &lt;&gt;

**MVFF Lady Anglers, October Pecos River Trip**

Mary R. Haynes, El Paso, Texas

In the early days of October this year, seven of us ladies gathered up in the canyons of the Pecos River for a couple of days of brilliant fly fishing. We were met with outrageous colors, beautiful shimmering golds and yellows, ruby reds dripping down the Sangre de Cristo mountainsides with the usual jade and forest greens intermixed. The tame river was quietly gurgling with the shadows of fish, perfectly camouflaged, down in the mornings, rising in the afternoons. The water would prove fruitful and challenging.

I arrived from the north and east, pushing a very strong noisy front air mass back toward California as dusk fell. Others arrived earlier with the same air mass battering their vehicles from the west. As we approached the cabins, wild turkey were spotted moving back up the hills from acorn gathering in the oak cospes near the windy bridge.

When one travels to the Santa Fe National Forest, pleasant traveling companions are much appreciated for night falls quickly allowing time for sharing good dinners in the cabins, accoutered with comfortable old or new furniture. Later, the stories and tall tales unwind before a comfortable fire. The area draws celebrity fishers as well as promising adventurers and we were lucky to have both in our group. German browns liked the bead-head pheasant tails while the parachute blue wing olives and similar flies were successful later in the day. One beautiful mature mayfly attracted much attention from the fish.

We hired guides for the first day which was an excellent decision. The guides were superb in selecting areas along the river with deep pools swarming with fish. They were patient in teaching strategies to those who sought guidance and respectful of those who did not. Their suggestions about clothing, equipment and gear before the trip made us comfortable and successful. Only one of us fell into the river, but nobody noticed. Others could not hear the splashing over the water's current. The high waders, felt boots and Velcro at the wrists, kept most of the cold water out.

Our thanks go out to the members of the Mesilla Valley Fly Fishers who shared their knowledge, their casting skills and many moments of patient knot and fly tying. Clinics before the trip contributed much to the success and pleasure of our trip. Also, the ATF Fly Shop in El Paso as well as the Los Pinos Fly shop in Albuquerque provided good equipment and advice for this trip.

I invite you to visit the Pecos River soon for a fishing trip. The incredible beauty of the area will draw your camera eye to follow the wind in the golden Aspen leaves and then the American Dipper birds as they skip over the waters. You will smell the sap from the Ponderosa pines and Englemann Spruce. And, you won't be disappointed about the fish at the end of your rod.





**Black Beauty**

Because of meeting problems last month, the center of attention for the Liars and Tyers this month will again be the *Black Beauty*.

The *Black Beauty* was developed by Pat Dorsey and here is what Charlie Craven has to say about it on his website: "Pat Dorsey, the illustrious South Platte River guide, popularized the *Black Beauty* in recent years. The *Black Beauty* is the ultimate guide fly; quick and easy to tie, durable and the thing catches fish. The *Black Beauty* is the basis for a number of other patterns with just slight differences. Tie it with white thread and a black or gray dubbed or marker colored head and you've got a *Miracle Nymph*, add a silver bead, substitute silver wire for the rib and you have a *Zebra Midge*, red thread and no head makes a *Blood Midge*. You get the idea, a simple thread body ribbed

with wire for segmentation and flash and a small dubbed head combine to match a variety of midge larva. You can tie up a complete size and color range to match midges anywhere using this fly as a pattern and varying the colors. Don't forget to tie some with small metal or glass bead heads, too. I use the *Black Beauty* and other thread midges on a dropper behind a *Pheasant Tail* or *RS-II* much of the time and in tandem with a *Brassie* or *Poison Tung* during the winter months. This fly is particularly successful on tail waters and holds it's own on freestone rivers during low water periods and the winter."

Charlie has detailed tying instructions for the *Black Beauty* along with its many variations at his a great web site at <http://www.charliesflyboxinc.com/>.



- Hook:** TMC 101 #18 to 24
- Thread:** Uni 8/0 Black
- Rib:** fine copper wire
- Body:** thread
- Thorax:** Super Fine Black Dubbing
- Bead:** Crystal Clear glass bead



**MVFF Monthly Events Calendar**

Month	Events	Trips	General Club Meeting Topic/Speaker	Clinics or Lease Projects
November	Liars & Tyers 23 Nov. <i>Black Beauty</i>		9 Nov. - William Schudlich and Greg McReynolds will give a presentation titled <i>New Mexico Trout Unlimited and Native Trout Recovery in New Mexico.</i>	
December	Liars & Tyers 28 Dec.		14 Dec. - John Tavenner will present <i>Tackle and Techniques for fishing the San Juan River</i>	5 Dec. - NM Trout Fly Tying Symposium
January 2010	Liars & Tyers 28 Jan.		No general meeting - banquet instead - 16 Jan.	30 Jan. - NM Trout Conclave 2010

**MVFF Board Meeting Minutes**

Monday, October 19, 2009

Submitted by Donna Mabie, Secretary

The MVFF Board meeting, presided over by President Jeff Arterburn, was called to order at 7:00pm in the NMDG&F Conference Room.

In attendance were Jeff Arterburn, Tom Wobbe, Jim Hulse, Jim Sorenson, George Sanders, Robert Silver, Gary Mann, Donna Mabie, George Thomas, Ron Bellerose, and guest attendees Randall and Vicki Vallee, Richard Keding and Jerry Schickedanz.

1. Minutes of the September Board meeting, as published in the October newsletter, were approved with one correction, the Treasurer's Report balance of \$13,843.00 should have read 14,728.00.
2. The Treasurer's Report as presented by Treasurer Gary Mann was approved and shows a balance of \$14,139.
3. Tom Wobbe reported that there are 208 paid members to date, 75 of which are from Las Cruces, 55 from El Paso and the rest from elsewhere.
4. Clarification was made as to how the Norman J. Mabie Scholarship will be handled through the New Mexico State University College of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. Efforts will be made to publicize the scholarship to a wider audience.
5. Jim Sorenson agreed to head up the By-Laws Committee.
6. The potential for initiating a local Trout Unlimited chapter was discussed. The November general meeting will feature a presentation by Bill Schudlich and Greg McReynolds discussing NM Trout Unlimited's contributions towards native trout recovery projects in New Mexico.
7. John Tavenner, who has worked on the San Juan River for 18 years, will do a presentation at the December 2009 Club general membership meeting.
8. Gary Mann reported that he has solicited discounted items for the raffle to be held during the banquet in January. These items include Sage rods, Winston rods, TFO rods, Ross reel, Galvan reel, Lamson reel and spool, Simms waders, etc. He was given permission to proceed and funds for such were approved. Additional door prizes will be awarded at the banquet, and a separate drawing will be held from the collected pool of tickets submitted during authorized club functions this year.
9. No Club trips are planned as of now.
10. Twenty Project Healing Waters members attended the fishing at the Club waters and were assisted by 12 Club volunteers. Fish were caught and the food was good.
11. Ongoing monitoring of club waters will provide information to decide if additional fish stocking should be pursued this year.
12. The ranch manager at the Rio Peñasco lease observed two members camping on the grounds without permission, and also fishing two days with submission of a single permit. The Board will contact the involved individuals and pursue appropriate conclusion of the issue.
13. Ron Bellerose reported on the status of the Project Healing Waters project.
14. Jerry Schickedanz discussed the protocol issue of Club support in wilderness matters.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42pm.

**Quick Look Contact Information**

2009 Officers of the Club	
<b>Officers</b>	
• <b>President</b>	Jeff Arterburn (575) 524-0773
• <b>V-Pres.</b>	Bob Silver (575) 522-6325
• <b>Secretary</b>	Donna Mabie (575) 522-3810
• <b>Treasurer</b>	Gary Mann (575) 521-7793
<b>Board Members</b>	
• <b>Position 1</b>	Paul Turner (575) 523-6880
• <b>Position 2</b>	Jim Sorenson (575) 525-1050
• <b>Position 3</b>	Tom Wobbe (575) 522-5437
• <b>Position 4</b>	George Thomas (575) 532-5614
• <b>Position 5</b>	George Sanders (575) 527-5536
<b>Newsletter &amp; Web Page Editor</b>	
• Jim Hulsey (575) 524-1880	newsletter@mvff.org

**Norm Mabie Scholarship Fund**

<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,003</b>
--------------	-----------------

**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](mailto: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.

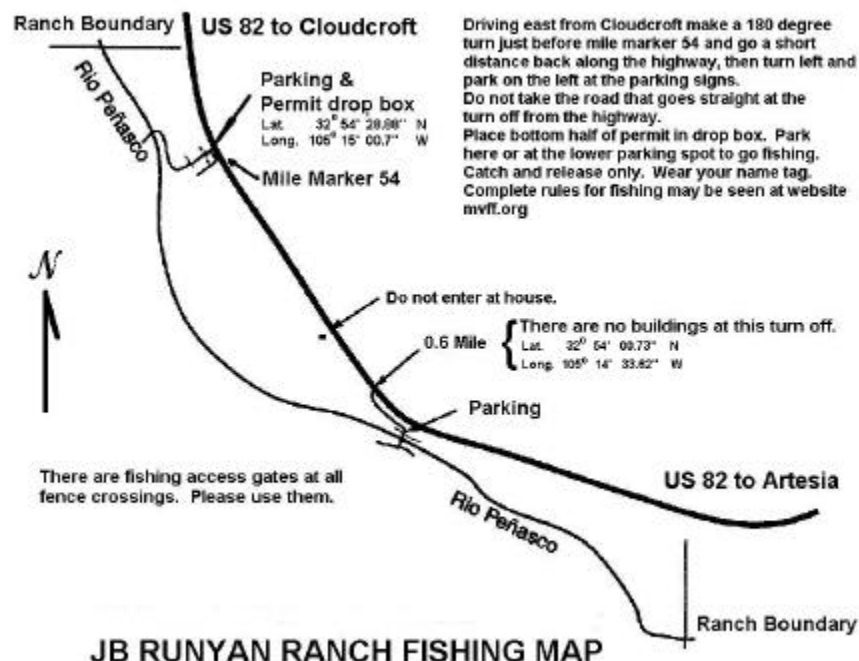
1 Year	\$20	Individual
	\$25	Family
3 Years	\$50	Individual
	\$60	Family
Life	\$400	Individual
	\$500	Family

### 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.