

Tale Waters

September 2007



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Website: www.MVFF.org

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Fish conference room. All members are welcome to attend.

Liars and Tyers

Thursday, 27 September

Liars and Tyers will meet Thursday 27 September at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room starting at 7:00 PM. The group will be tying the *Jujubee Midge* which is the same as had been planned for August; however, the lock on the meeting room malfunctioned precluding the meeting. This is a great fly for the San Juan. Tying will be demonstrated by Joseph Lopez. A photograph and recipe is presented later in this newsletter. Don't miss out. Extra vises and supplies available for beginning tiers.

Membership Meeting

There will be no general membership meeting in September but instead we will have the annual Club picnic on 22 September at Preciado Park at NMSU. For details see the article in this issue of the newsletter.

New Date for October Membership Meeting

The October meeting will be held on 1 October with Marc Wethington of the NM Dept. of Game & Fish speaking on "Habitat improvement projects and other management concerns on the San Juan River". This is different from the date we usually have our membership meeting so be sure and mark your calendar now.

Executive Board Meeting

Monday, 17 September

The MVFF Executive Board will meet on Monday 17 September at 7:00 PM at the New Mexico Game and

President's Corner

Paul Turner

My main MVFF-related activities during August have been restricted to planning for upcoming activities and contacts with new members that have joined us during the summer. Because the MVFF doesn't hold regular meetings during the summer, we have only limited contact with members that join during the summer. Although the monthly newsletter will normally give our members a fairly complete reminder about our plans for the rest of the year, I suspect that some members may forget to check it during the summer and this is especially true for new members from outside of the Las Cruces-El Paso area. We continue having our monthly Board of Directors' meetings on the third Monday of each month and use that meeting and other contacts between board members to work on upcoming activities. We have made plans for the annual summer picnic that allows members to get together to discuss summer fishing trips and plans for other MVFF activities in the next few months. I encourage

all members to attend the September 22nd picnic on the NMSU campus (See related article for details and directions). This is always a great way to get to know club members and their families in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. I plan to invite Justin Mapula who was recently awarded MVFF's Norman Mabie Memorial Scholarship and other students and faculty from the Department of Fishery and Wildlife Sciences at New Mexico State University to the picnic. I have also sent a personal e-mail to many of our new MVFF members and invited them to attend the picnic. Hopefully we will get a big turnout from both new and continuing members. I know from experience that this event is always an enjoyable way to meet members who have been gone or busy with other activities during the summer.

My fishing during August was limited to one trip with my wife to the Gila River to attend an outing sponsored by Gila Conservation Coalition. We drove to Silver City and met a group of outdoor enthusiasts for a bus drive to The Nature Conservancy's nature preserve at the mouth of Mogollon Creek. After getting organized and acquainted we started upstream to the first river crossing where we found the water too turbid for flyfishing. Dutch Salmon, an outdoor writer in charge of this outing, had anticipated the muddy water conditions and had brought some nightcrawlers (earthworms) and his spinning gear and encouraged the anglers in the group to give them a try. Several of the fly fishermen limbered up their rods, but it became obvious to me that this was unlikely to work so I put a spinning reel on my flyrod and tried a small spinner for a while. My wife found a noisy blacktail rattlesnake blocking her path upstream so several of the hikers got to see some local wildlife in addition to the more visible birdlife. After hiking about 2 miles up to the gauging station on the Gila River we ate our lunches while enjoying the scenery. Dutch offered me his spinning rod and had me bait it with a worm to fish the nice pool at the gauging station. I got several bumps before a fish stole my worm when I tried to set the hook. I quickly rebaited and cast the weighted rig back into the current entering the pool. Within a few minutes I was getting some action and this time I let the fish swim off with my bait before setting the hook. This time I connected and got to fight a nice fish for 5 minutes before landing a 2 to 3-pound

flathead catfish. I carried my catch across the river to show to the group and to take pictures with my digital camera before releasing it after cutting the line as the hook was too deeply embedded to safely remove. Dutch and I have known each other for nearly 20 years since he talked with me about flathead catfish which had been the subject of my graduate research in Oklahoma. Although I have caught over a thousand flatheads up to 45 pounds by gill nets, seines, and electrofishing over the years, this was the first flathead catfish I had ever landed on rod and reel. I can't take much credit for this accomplishment as Dutch had told me where to fish with his rod, provided the bait, and coached my efforts. Still it was a first for me and I enjoyed the experience and have the picture to prove it. Dutch and I talked about the ecology and fishes of the Gila River with the group during the trip and I certainly agree with the Gila Conservation Coalition that an off channel reservoir on the Gila River would not be the most cost-effective way to improve water supplies for the area. This topic deserves a more detailed discussion but I encourage interested members to visit www.gilaconservation.org for more information. You can also attend the Gila River Festival on September 14-16 in the Silver City area for an educational and fun-filled opportunity to see the Gila and its wildlife in person. Dutch Salmon is scheduled to give a demonstration on flyfishing the Gila River at the Gila Cliff Dwelling National Monument Visitor Center from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on September 16th. If you want to get tips and tricks from a seasoned fly fisherman that really knows the Gila River I strongly encourage you to make the scenic drive. I have spent several hundred days fishing, backpacking, and leading students on field trips in this area and know you won't regret the effort. If you are interested in more details talk to me about it at the picnic or contact me by e-mail or telephone. I also encourage you to attend our October 1st regular meeting which will concentrate on the San Juan River and our upcoming club trip on October 12-14. We have two expert fishing guides set to provide guiding to the first twelve club members that sign up for the October 12th morning or afternoon time slots flyfishing out of the Texas Hole parking area. MVFF will subsidize the expense on this so it will only cost members \$50.00 for a half-day guide and our group

dinner that evening at the Pine Main Picnic Group Shelter. If you haven't fished the San Juan River much it is quite desirable to get started with an expert guide that can show you the proper techniques and gear on the river. This will be a great time of the year to flyfish the San Juan so I'm sure you will enjoy this club-sponsored outing if you can fit it into your schedule. And you should remember if you're too busy to go fishing, you're TOO BUSY.

Paul

Club Picnic

Saturday 22 September

The Club will have their annual picnic on 22 September 2007 at Preciado Park on the NMSU campus. This is the same place as last year. If you are not sure how to get there, directions are at the end of this article and there is a map posted on the webpage.

The Club will supply hamburgers and hotdogs along with plates, flatware, condiments, etc. You should bring a covered dish or dessert along with any other snacks you might like. You should also bring a lawn chair.

The picnic will start at 11am and go to 2pm, but preparations will begin about 9 or 9:30. If you want to come out early and help set things up it will be appreciated. We have reserved the covered area so will be protected in case of rain. Cooking preps must be completed so cooking can begin at 11am or shortly after.

Come on out. We always have a great time.

Directions:

From I-25: Exit at University Ave. and turn west at the end of the freeway ramp. At Espina St. (the fifth traffic light) turn left. At Stewart Ave. (the third stop sign) turn left. At Sweet St. turn right. At Gregg Ave. turn left. Preciado Park will be on your left.

From I-10: Exit at University Ave. and turn east onto University Ave. At Espina St. (the first traffic light) turn right. At Stewart Ave. (the third stop sign) turn left. At Sweet St. turn right. At Gregg Ave. turn left. Preciado Park will be on your left

There is a map showing the location of Preciado Park at NMSU later in this newsletter.

New Lease Agreement for Rio Peñasco

In early August a new lease agreement for fishing the Rio Peñasco was put in place with ranch manager Jim Ellett. The agreement is pretty much the same as previous agreements with a couple of exceptions. A permit for a day's fishing will now cost \$25, up from the previous \$20. To ease the burden on families, however, the \$12 student permit has been eliminated and now kids 17 years or younger in age will fish free as long as they are accompanied by an adult with a permit. Permits which had already been sold but not yet used will still be valid. This is the first rate increase since the club acquired the lease several years ago. The new agreement went into effect on 15 August 2007.

Club Outings Planned

The board has discussed several possible fishing outings for the coming year but at present only has the one shown below scheduled. If you have comments or suggestions for additional trips pass them to George Sanders, (505) 527-5536, who has volunteered to chair the "Outings" committee.

San Juan - 12 - 14 October - annual fall trip to San Juan.

3rd Annual Gila River Festival

14 - 16 September

The 3rd Annual Gila River Festival will be held 14 - 16 September in Silver City, NM. The following is an excerpt from their web page:

The 3rd Annual Gila River Festival is a weekend celebration and interpretive event focusing on increasing the awareness of the natural and cultural history of the Gila River. Featuring talks, walks, stewardship projects and puppet theater, this year's event also features an evening campfire program with community storytellers, a "star party," and an opportunity for families to camp at the river's headwaters. The theme for the festival this year, "*Flowing Into the Future*," emphasizes the role of flooding in maintaining the natural integrity of the river, and the cyclical nature that people living alongside it continue to adapt to.

The Festival is a celebration of the role that the river plays in our lives. Through the festival,

we seek to gain greater and broader understanding of why the Gila is a gem in our hearts and minds.

Bob Coppedge
Gary Elam
Mary Hoffman
Brian Long
Jeff & Chance Neatherlin
Sheri, Larry & Mark Pennington
Jim Sorenson

Mesilla Park, NM
Odessa, TX
Las Cruces, NM
Midland, TX
Carlsbad, NM
Lubbock, TX
Las Cruces, NM

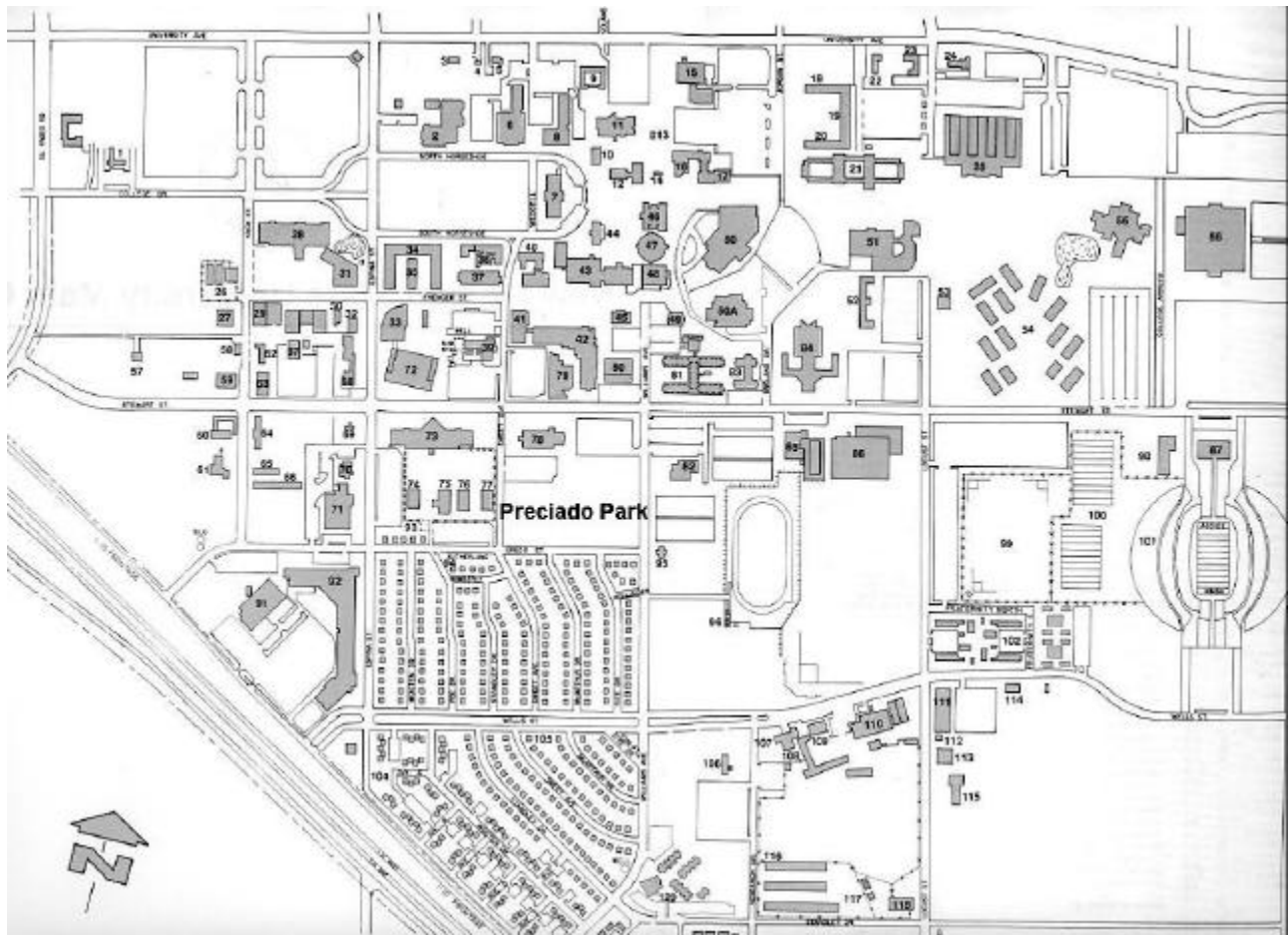
Welcome New Members

Robert Ardivino

Sunland Park, NM



Map of NMSU Showing Preciado Park



Quick Look Contact Information

2007 Officers of the Club	
Officers	
• President	Paul Turner (505) 523-6880
• V-Pres.	Jeff Arterburn (505) 524-0773
• Secretary	Donna Mabie (505) 522-3810
• Treasurer	Gary Mann (505) 521-7793
Board Members	
• Position 1	Richard Keding (505) 382-7498
• Position 2	Ron Bellerose (505) 541-0807
• Position 3	Tom Wobbe (505) 522-5437
• Position 4	Bob Silver (505) 522-6325
• Position 5	George Sanders (505) 527-5536
Newsletter & Web Page Editor	
• Jim Hulsey (505) 524-1880	newsletter@mvff.org

Norm Mabie Scholarship Fund	\$10,677
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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 (505) 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.

Angler's Nook

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

Club members receive a 33% discount on most items at the Angler's Nook.
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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.



RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP - DUE MARCH 31

And don't forget to renew your NM fishing license
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Jujubee Midge

The center of attention for the Liars and Tyers this month will be the *Jujubee Midge*.

The Jujubee Midge was designed by Charlie Craven of Colorado several years back when he was guiding on the South Platte River. Jujubee got its name from the nickname of his daughter, Julie.

His favorite color combinations for the abdomen are two olive and one black, two chartreuse and one

black, two black and one white and two red with one white.

Detailed tying instructions may be found at <http://www.charliesflyboxinc.com/flybox/detail.cfm?parentID=49> from which this information was taken. For those of you not familiar with this website, it is an excellent fly tying resource.



Hook: TMC 2488 #18-24.

Thread: 10/0 white.

Abdomen: Super Hair, color combination of your choice. Two strands of primary color and one strand of contrasting rib color.

Thorax and Head: Black tying thread.

Wingcase: White Umpqua Flouro-Fiber.

Wingbuds: Remaining stubs of Flouro-Fiber from wingcase, pulled back along sides of thorax like legs.



MVFF Monthly Events Calendar

Month	Events	Trips	General Club Meeting Topic/Speaker	Clinics or Lease Projects
September	Liars & Tyers 27 Sept. Jujubee Midge		22 Sept. - Club picnic at Preciado Park, NMSU	14-16 Sept. - 3 rd annual Gila River Festival
October	Liars & Tyers 25 Oct.	Club trip to San Juan - 12 - 14 Oct.	1 Oct. - Marc Wethington, NMDG&F, will speak on San Juan.	
November	Liars & Tyers 29 Nov.		12 Nov. - Bob Silver will speak on "Salt Water Flyfishing".	
December	Liars & Tyers 27 Dec.		10 Dec. - George Sanders will speak on "Fishing the Green River".	

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.

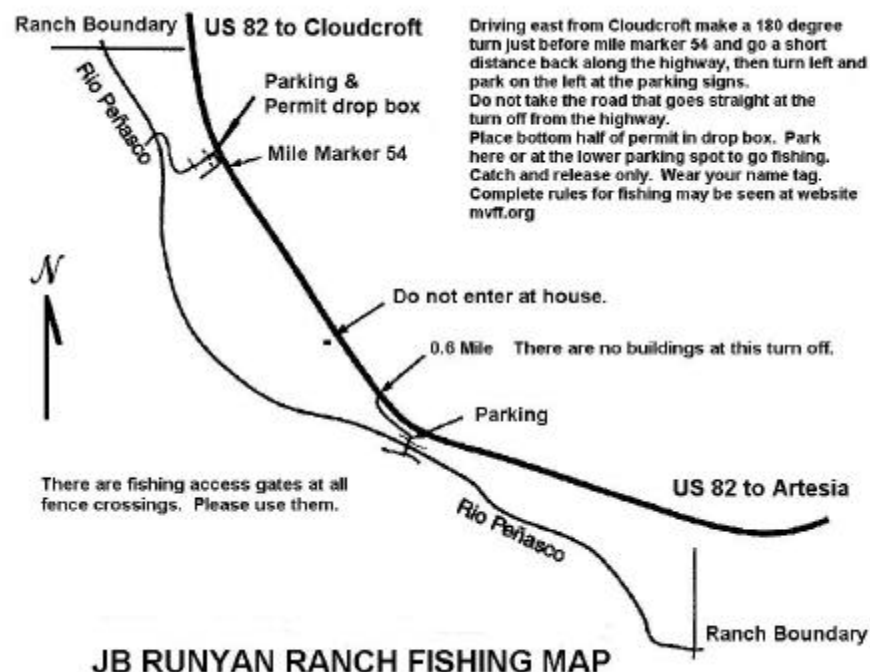
1 Year	\$20	Individual
	\$25	Family
3 Years	\$50	Individual
	\$60	Family
Life	\$400	Individual
	\$500	Family

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*. Permits can be obtained from the land owner, but you should phone (505-687-3362) 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 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.

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.