



TALE WATERS

A Monthly Publication of
Mesilla Valley Flyfishers, Inc.
P.O. Box 2222
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www.MVFF.org

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2016



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Membership Meeting

Monday, 14 November

The MVFF general membership meeting will meet on Monday 14 November at 7:00pm in the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. The speaker will be Jill Wick, NMDGF trout biologist, who will discuss the status of Gila Trout recovery and fishing opportunities.

Cookies and coffee will be served.

Executive Board Meeting

Monday, 21 November

The MVFF Executive Board will meet on Monday 21 November at 7:00pm. There is a conflict in scheduling for the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room so the meeting will be held at 'The Game' restaurant on Espina street.. All members are welcome to attend.

Liars and Tyers

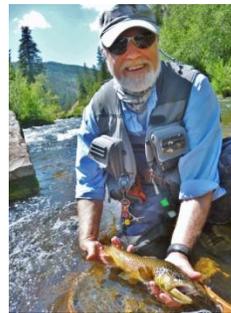
Meeting date tbd

Due to scheduling conflicts and the Thanksgiving holiday the meeting date and location have not been

determined. An email message will be sent when the details are known. You may also keep an eye on the coming events page on the Club web page. The fly to be tied is the *Stimulator*. The tying session will be led by professional tyer, Tim Mack. Don't miss out. Extra vises and supplies will be available for beginning tyers.

President's Corner

David Carmichael



Late last month Jeff and Michelle Arterburn and I had the pleasure of attending a celebration at the El Paso Museum of Art for the opening of a new exhibition, "Eldridge Hardie: Art of a Life in Sport." The exhibition includes oil paintings and

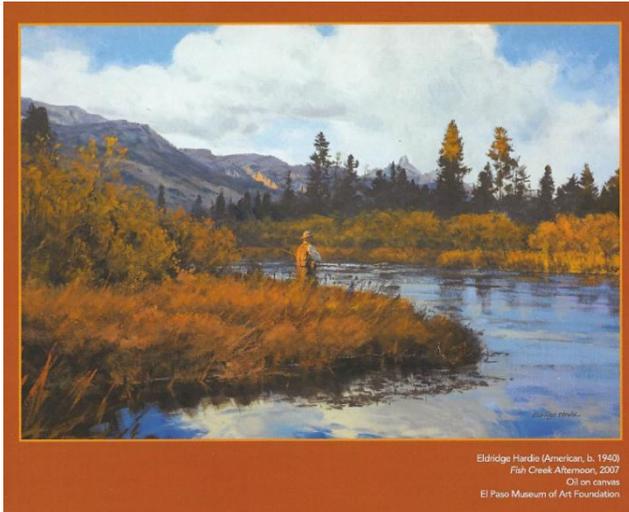
watercolors being shown in the Peter and Margaret DeWetter Gallery where they will be on display through March 5, 2017. MVFF club members Donna Curlin and Sam Moore are among the Presenting Sponsors of the exhibition. Thank you both for helping to make the exhibition possible.



Jeff Arterburn, artist Eldridge Hardie, J. Sam Moore and Dave Carmichael at the exhibition opening, (photo by Michelle Arterburn)

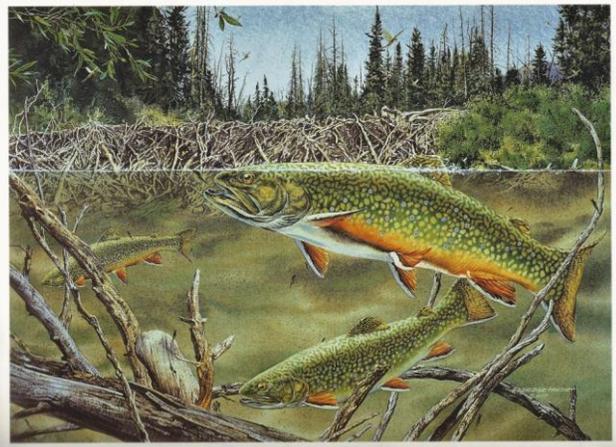
The featured work is a wonderful oil painting commissioned by the El Paso Museum of Art Foundation,

entitled *Fish Creek Afternoon* (see below). Rumor has it that Sam is the angler depicted in the painting.



Eldridge Hardie (American, b. 1940)
Fish Creek Afternoon, 2007
Oil on canvas
El Paso Museum of Art Foundation

Eldridge Hardie grew up hunting and fishing in the El Paso area before moving away to study art at the Washington University School of Fine Art in St. Louis. After college he returned to El Paso where he met Tom Lea, who became one of his mentors and role models. Hardie is a nationally acclaimed wildlife artist who has exhibited at the National Museum of Wildlife Art, the Gilcrease Museum, the C. M. Russell Museum, and the American Museum of Flyfishing. His painting *In Rough Country* (2001) won the Texas Quail Stamp Award in 2002. The exhibition includes two similar paintings depicting details of quail hunts in the rough backcountry of the Southwest.



Beaver Pond Brook Trout (1997), watercolor

Hardie's works evoke the sights, sounds and feelings that one actually experiences in the field. But despite being impressionistic, they manage to also focus the viewer's attention on small but significant details that are evident to one who has participated in and ob-

served hunting and fishing for many years: details of quail markings; the muscular definition of well-conditioned hunting dogs; the graceful arc of a fly rod accurately depicted; and the subtle indications of current seams in flowing waters. The exhibition, the first of its kind for the El Paso Museum of Art, contains more than 20 oils, watercolors and sketches spanning several decades of Hardie's long career. It is definitely worth a visit next time you are in the neighborhood.

We had a great turnout for the stocking activity on the lease last month. Thanks to all the club members who helped make short work of releasing 500 trout. That work, in combination with the high, clear flows and cool temperatures the Rio Peñasco is currently experiencing has resulted in some excellent fishing. I had the opportunity to spend 4 ½ hours fishing the lease last weekend, and I had a great time. The fall colors are starting to show and there were flocks of mallards and turkeys at several locations. Perhaps the most unexpected delight was the repeated spectacle of small clouds of yellow and purple butterflies exploding from the muddy banks and swirling around me like snowflakes when I stepped close to the stream.

The air temperature was in the mid-70s, but the water temperature felt significantly cooler than on the day we did the stocking; when I measured with a thermometer, the afternoon water temperature was 60 degrees, just a bit on the chilly side for wet wading. The water was high and extremely clear; perhaps the clearest I've ever seen on the lease. The river bottom was visible in all but the very deepest or most agitated pools. Probably because of the extreme clarity of the water, the fish were hunkered down and challenging to approach. The weeds floating along on the current were an additional challenge, and I had to clean the weeds off my flies and tippet knots about every other cast or so.

Despite the challenges, the fishing was quite good. During the time I spent on the water I caught 19 trout (and missed a couple more) and about half a dozen chubs. Most were stockers, but four were nice hold over rainbows of 15, 16 and 18 inches. The 18 inch female rainbow was especially fun and satisfying to land. She went airborne a few times and I had to "walk the dog" just as Landon Mayer demonstrated in

the video we viewed at the last club meeting. That technique really worked!



Chunky 18 inch female rainbow, Rio Penasco, 10/22/16

The stockers took either RS2 emergers or red copper johns, but all the larger fish were caught on a weighted San Juan worm. Nearly all the trout were caught at the upper end of the lease, above and below the upper bridge, but the largest one was from the lower end of the lease. Grasshoppers were evident all along the river, but I didn't see any trout feeding on them, and the hopper patterns I threw produced no takes. Same goes for the shiny black beetles I saw floating on the water... no trout feeding on them. One other detail was very important in locating feeding trout. All of the trout were caught in portions of the stream that were heavily shaded at the time. While shade can often be a factor, it seemed to be even more important than usual on that day, again probably because of the water clarity.



Early fall colors on the Rio Peñasco

So, if you get a chance, now would be a good time to try fishing the lease. Bring a few extra flies, to account for the offerings you will likely leave in the willows and cottonwoods along the banks on the upper portion of the lease.



Ron Bellerose
PHW Coordinator



Project Healing Waters is going steady. We had one trip to Arizona in October and will have another trip to Arizona in November and a Vet participating in the San Juan trip with the

club. We have four fly tying events scheduled in the coming months and with the stocking of our local ponds I expect to have many fishing trips this quarter. We have a fund raiser set for the 12th of November at the Sportsman's Warehouse.

I need to thank the MVFF members for their participation in getting PHW items through their donations. I expect to have enough donations for a trip to either the Alaska trip or a trip to Green River and a couple of trips to the San Juan. I will be looking for volunteers for some of these events.

Stop in at the Sportsman's Warehouse on the 12th of November. We will have fly tying, raffle ticket donations and information about Project Healing Waters.

Raffle Prizes:

- 10wt 9' 4 pc TFO rod with PHW tube
- 8' 5/6 wt 2pc TFO rod
- Simms Pursuit GTV, shoe size 10

Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

For more information about PHWFF see www.projecthealingwaters.org. Contact Ron Bellerose (575-680-5516), flyfishnh@hotmail.com if you wish to volunteer to help out.

Does Fishing Mean Anything?

Angler and award-winning author Thomas McGuane presented the talk "Does Fishing Mean Anything?" on Thursday, May 5, 2016 at the Museum of the Rockies Hager Auditorium as part of the [MSU Library Trout & Salmonid Lecture Series](#). Trout are "emblematic of the perfection of nature," says McGuane, and "fishing is one way, in a good way, of learning where you are," says McGuane.

Anyone interested in watching a video of this talk may do so at <http://midcurrent.com/2016/07/23/video-mcguane-answers-does-fishing-mean-anything/>

Rio Peñasco Stocked

The Club stocked 500 rainbows in the Rio Peñasco on 15 October. All went well and volunteers had a good time with many of them staying to fish after the work was completed.

Club Outings Planned

The board is now discussing possible future outings and would welcome suggestions from members. Where do you want to go? Let them know. If you have comments or suggestions for additional trips pass them to any of the Board members. Trips now in the planning stages are:

- Nov. 3–6—Club trip to San Juan

Welcome New Members

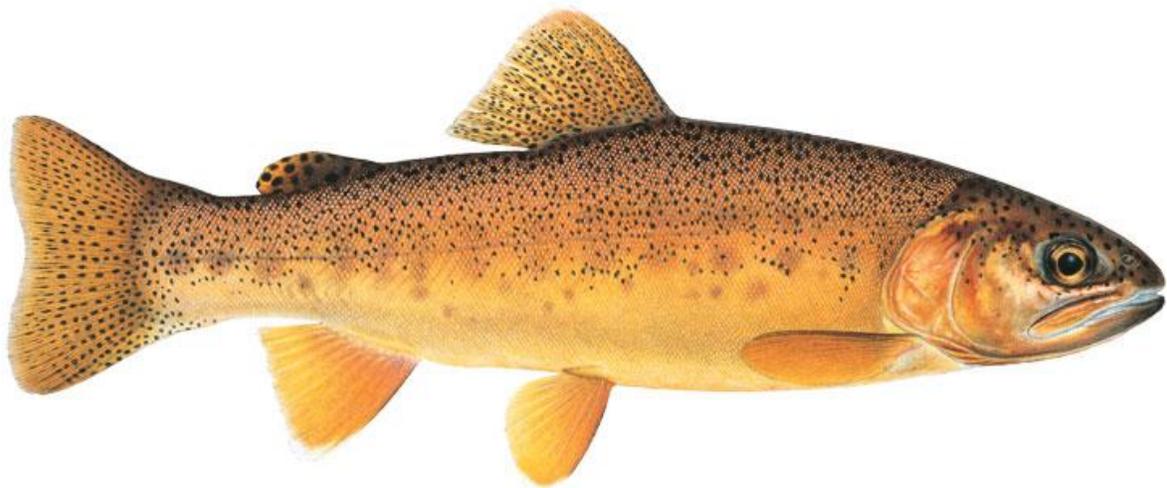
Andy & Mary Cox	Clovis, NM
John & Sandra Della-Ratta	Deming, NM



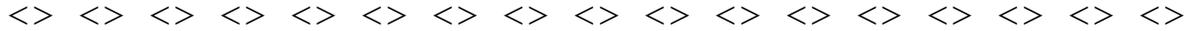
Stimulator



Hook: TMC 200R or similar curved long shank hook, #8 to #14
Thread: UNI 8/0 fire orange or bright orange
Tail: elk hair
Body: olive dubbing with brown hackle, palmered
Rib: fine gold wire
Wing: elk hair over Krystal Flash
Head: orange dubbing with grizzly hackle, palmered



Gila Trout



MVFF Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 17, 2016

Submitted by Jim Sorenson, Acting Secretary

The MVFF Board meeting was called to order at 5:30pm in the NMDGF Conference Room by President David Carmichael. In attendance were David Carmichael, Jim Sorenson, Gary Mann, Chuck Mueller and Dennis Lanpher and non-Board members Tom Wobbe, Jim Hulsey, Tom Lightfoot and Ron Bellerose.

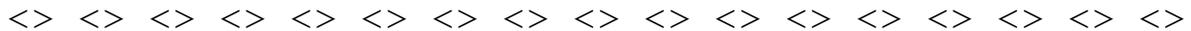
1. The Minutes of the September 2016 Board meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.
2. Gary Mann reported that the Club has a balance of \$12,995. The Treasurer's Report was accepted.
3. The Club has 361 members.
4. March 25, 2017 was approved as the date for the Kids' Fishing Clinic.
5. Ron Bellerose reported on the PHW activities. Because of budget cuts, the Resiliency Program at Ft. Bliss has eliminated all travel. Accordingly, the fly tying and casting for October 26 and the trip to the Lease on November 2 have been cancelled. PHW will hold a fund raiser at Sportsman's Warehouse on November 12.
6. Jim Sorenson reported on the meeting of representatives of the Gila/Rio Grande Chapter of Trout Unlimited, the New Mexico Environment Department and the Bureau of Land Management to discuss stream improvements on the Rio Bonito southeast of Lincoln, NM. The BLM will proceed to hire an engineering firm to develop a plan which it will circulate for comment. Overall, it

looks promising for developing another trout fishing area in southern New Mexico.

7. Jill Wick, NMDGF trout biologist, has agreed to discuss the status of Gila Trout recovery and fishing opportunities at the November Club meeting. David will ask Bob Silver to make a presentation regarding the Club trip to Kodiak at the December meeting.
8. Saturday, January 28, 2017 was approved as the date for the Club's Annual Banquet. A budget of \$2,200 was approved for raffle prizes.
9. David will contact Christian Valle who wants to do a segment on MVFF for the KRWG Community Connection Program.
10. The Board will nominate new members to serve on the 2017 Board at its November meeting. Those nominees and any nominations from the floor will be voted on at the December General meeting.
11. Tom Wobbe noted that the Club will assist the Las Cruces Public Schools with a 'Special Needs Kids' fishing clinic on November 10, 11 and 12, 2016. Five or six volunteers are needed each day to set up rods and assist any children needing help.

The next Board meeting will be on November 21, 2016 at 7:00pm at The 'Game', as the NMDGF classroom is not available.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.



Quick Look Contact Information

2016 Officers of the Club	
Officers	
• President:	David Carmichael (915) 204-7558
• V-Pres.:	Jim Sorenson (575) 525-1050
• Secretary:	John Kennedy (612) 720-3456
• Treasurer:	Gary Mann (575) 521-7793
Board Members	
• Position 1:	David Carmichael (915) 204-7558
• Position 2:	Jim Sorenson (575) 525-1050
• Position 3:	Jeff Arterburn (575) 524-0773
• Position 4:	Ray Rodriquez (575) 520-5768
• Position 5:	John Kennedy (612) 720-3456
• Position 6:	Chuck Mueller (575) 647-4045
• Position 7:	Bob Silver (575) 522-6325
• Position 8:	Gary Mann (575) 521-7793
• Position 9:	Dennis Lanpher (575) 642-2946
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	
Market Value as of 30 June 2014	\$11,487

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.

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. If you live out of town and wish the print mailed to you please add \$5 for postage. See the MVFF website for purchase.



******* REMEMBER *******
MVFF MEMBERSHIPS & NM FISHING LI-
CENSES 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.

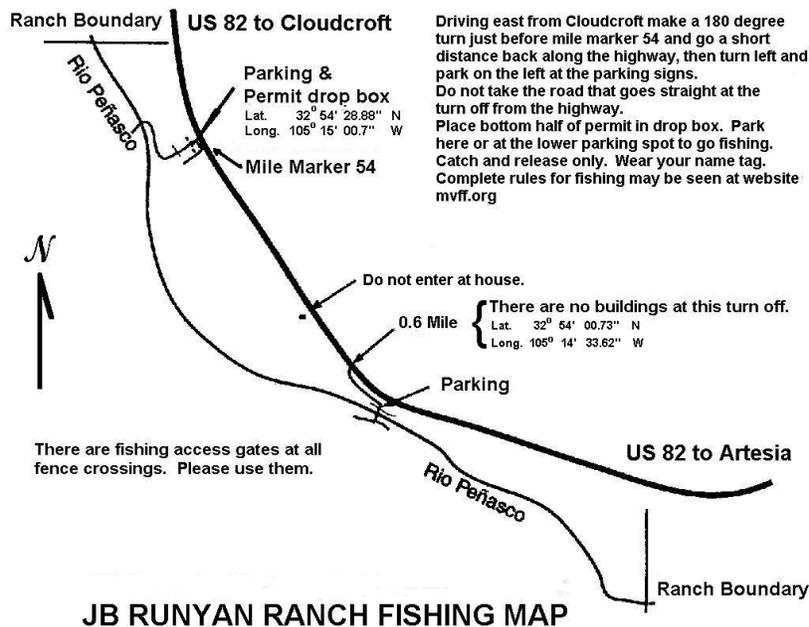
1 Year	\$20	Individual
	\$25	Family
3 Years	\$50	Individual
	\$60	Family
Life	\$400	Individual
	\$500	Family

Lease Information

Permits to fish the Club leased waters on the Rio Peñasco can be obtained from Jim Hulsey (575-524-1880), Tom Wobbe (575-522-5437) and Donna Mabie (575-522-3810) in Las Cruces. 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 (current dues have been paid) 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 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/Cell 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.