



TALE WATERS

A Monthly Publication of

Mesilla Valley Flyfishers, Inc.

P.O. Box 2222

Las Cruces, NM 88004-2222

www.MVFF.org

October

2017



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

New Members	1
Membership Meeting	1
Executive Board Meeting	1
Liars and Tyers	1
President's Corner	1
Project Healing Waters	5
Trout unlimited, Gila/Rio Grande Chapter	5
MVFF San Juan Trip	6
Club Outings	6
Recipe for Charlie's Mole Fly	7
Board Meeting Minutes	8

Tale Waters Edited by Jim Hulseley — newsletter@mvff.org

Welcome New Members

Jonas Moya	Mesilla Park, NM
Calvin Christian	El Paso, TX
Robert Kopczyk	El Paso, TX
Dillon Martinez	NMSU–Stanley, NM
Bill Powell	Alamogordo, NM

Membership Meeting

Monday, 9 October

The MVFF general membership meeting will meet on Monday 9 October at 7:00pm in the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. MVFF Vice President Tom Johnson will present a slide show and talk on "Fishing the Other Teton." He will be discussing how he found the lesser known river in Montana, how he fishes it, what type of trout he catches, and sharing photos of his adventures on the Front Range of Northern Montana. Tom was born fishing in Auburn, California, and has been tying and casting flies since he was a teenager. Before moving to Las Cruces in 2010, Tom was a fly tying and casting instructor, and once quit a job to go Steelhead fishing for a month. Please join us for an interesting and informative presentation!

Doors will open at 6:30pm and cookies and coffee will be served.

Executive Board Meeting

Monday, 16 October

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

Liars and Tyers

Wednesday, 25 October

Liars and Tyers will meet on Wednesday 25 October at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room starting at 7:00pm. The fly to be tied is the *Charlie's Mole Fly*. 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

Coming Soon, to a Town Near You!



I am pleased to announce that the MVFF and Ardivino's Desert Crossing restaurant are teaming up to host a showing of the 2017 Fly Fishing Film Tour (F3T) on Sunday afternoon, November 19, from 11AM to 3PM, at Ardivino's in Sunland Park, New Mexico. Bring-

ing this event to our region is something that Robert Ardivino, Jeff Arterburn and I have been discussing for several months, and I'm pleased to be able to report that it's going to happen. The F3T organization will provide 2–2½ hours of top quality independent fly fishing film content. Ardivino's Desert Crossing will serve a lunch complete with salad, a pasta station buffet, chocolate cake dessert, and a cash bar. The ticket price will be \$35, and that will include a chance to win the door prize of a new Winston fly rod built and donated by *Carmichael Custom Fly Rods*. Ardivino's Desert Crossing is one of the best restau-

rants in the region, and its setting at the foot of Mt. Cristo Rey provides a great view of the Lower Mesilla Valley and the Franklin Mountains. I hope you will make plans to attend this new and exciting club event.

Coming Even Sooner, to a Town Closer to You!

Please join us at the next meeting of the general membership on October 9, 7:00PM at the NM Department of Game and Fish. MVFF Vice President Tom Johnson will present a slide show and talk on "Fishing the Other Teton." The title of his presentation is intriguing, and I think the fishery to which Tom is referring will be of interest to many club members.

Last week I met with Joann Korsmo, widow of long-time club member Tom Korsmo who passed away early last year. She donated to the club the last of Tom's fly fishing gear and asked that the items be raffled off at our general membership meeting. The items include a nice Rio Grande cutthroat trout print, a couple of fishing hats, an embroidered club patch, and a stripping basket. They will be included in the drawing at the end of our October 9 meeting.

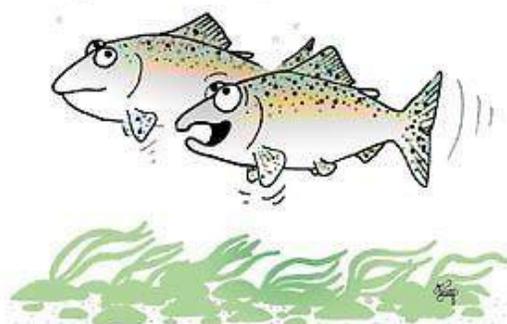
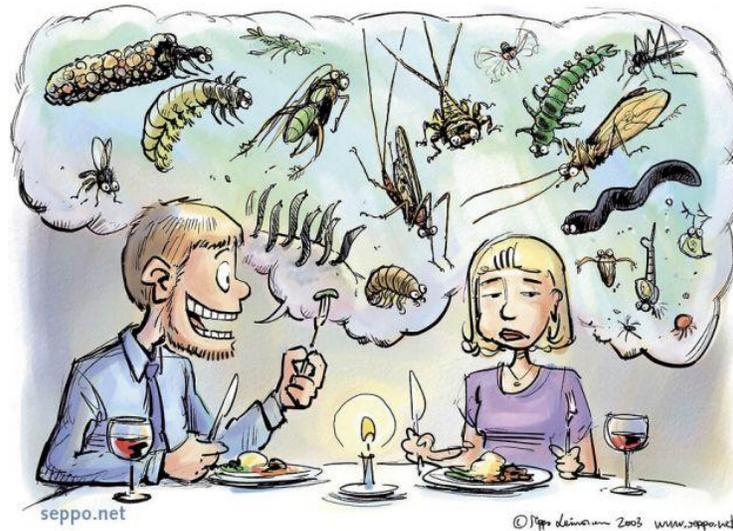
Reaching Out for Volunteers

The Mesilla Valley Fly Fishers club is a pretty awesome organization, a fact upon which I've remarked in these pages in the past. Especially when you consider our location in the middle of the Chihuahuan Desert, it is amazing that we undertake as many activities as we do; perhaps even more than some other clubs located in areas of the country where opportunities for fly fishing are more abun-

dant. Our club mission is at once simple and expansive: to promote conservation, restoration and education through fly fishing. Every once in a while it is useful to remind ourselves of all we do on a regular and ongoing basis.

We maintain a lease on private waters on a spring creek that offers year-round fly angling, and we enhance the fishing there by stocking two or three times a year and by working on stream improvements. We support education directly with our award of the Norm Mabie Memorial Scholarship to fisheries students at NMSU, and by sponsoring the Kids' Fishing Clinic each spring. The club is very active in the Project Healing Waters program, which involves both education, and restoration of a different sort. We teach fly tying classes, casting classes, rod building, and even have a mentoring program to provide

individualized help to new members. Our Lady Anglers group is one of only a few such groups in the Rocky Mountain West; at our last club meeting, Mary Hoffman reported that the Lady Anglers have members in Las Cruces and El Paso, and extending up through Hatch, to Albuquerque and Santa Fe. There are several fly fishing clubs and more than a few fly shops and outfitters between Albuquerque and Taos, but it is telling that the Lady Anglers membership is drawing from those areas because there is no comparable group in the northern part of the state.



**"Let's jump a few times
just to drive the fly fishers crazy!"**

those areas because there is no comparable group in the northern part of the state.

Thanks to our website and Facebook presence, we offer a variety of web resources, including fly tying videos, links to guides and other clubs and organizations, as well as instruction on basic fishing gear and fly fishing ethics. Our monthly presentations and winter banquet speakers provide information on such things as where to fish, techniques to improve our fishing, and even how to identify bugs.

Planning and carrying out all of these activities requires the consistent effort of many club members, and it can be too easy to take those efforts for granted. One of the main challenges in successfully sustaining volunteer organizations like ours is the process of moving new faces into leadership roles as the life circumstances of our core members change over time.

MVFF Board members and committee Chairs serve the club enthusiastically, in large part because we know and appreciate the benefits of an active and sustainable fishing club. Nevertheless, the length of time that some of our leaders have served is truly amazing. Tom Wobbe has carried out the multiple complicated and time consuming tasks associated with his role as Chair of the Membership Committee for the past 11 years, and he served two years as club President before that. Gary Mann has managed our finances as club Treasurer, another role requiring a significant commitment of time and effort, also for the past 11 years. Both of these perennial club leaders will be stepping away from their roles on the Board and Committees in the next few months, and the Board is in the process of redistributing their responsibilities among the rest of the Board members. I am grateful for all the hard work they have contributed to the club over the years, and I hope you will take a moment to let them know how much we all appreciate their involvement. We will also be losing Will Lubenau from our Board at the end of the fall semester, because he is graduating and moving on to what seems like a dream job in fisheries management in the Northern Rockies.

So, at present, we know that there will be at least two and perhaps more Board member positions open at the end of this year. One former Board member has expressed the willingness to serve again, but we

would be happy to welcome some newer, younger faces onto the Board as well. There will also be opportunities to serve on several committees, and one doesn't need to be on the Board to sit on committees. Please give some thought to the benefits provided by club membership, and if you have enjoyed those benefits, please consider stepping into a leadership position to help sustain the club for future members. Just talk to or email me or any other member of the Board if you have questions about or an interest in serving. Thanks! ▲



Ron Bellerose
PHW Coordinator



Project Healing Waters is back in full force. Two of the Vets are at Silver Creek in Arizona, thanks to the Tucson PHW. We had our annual 'Healing Saturday' on September 30 at the Sportsman's Warehouse. We got a lot of info out to the public about PHW and received a few donations for the program. We are fly tying on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Counseling Las Cruces from 6:30PM until 8. We are also fly tying the last Wednesday of the month from 1PM until 3. The location is changing from the Las Cruces VA Clinic to the Vet Center located at 1120 Commerce, Suite B. I think this will be a much better area for our Vets to participate. The conference room is much larger and access for the Vets will be much better. They have as many as 200 Vets taking advantage of the facility and many seem to be interested in fishing. Also, the staff at the Vet Center is 100% PHW and will do what they can to support us. All in all it looks like we will have another great year with Project Healing Waters.

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. ▲

Trout Unlimited Gila/Rio Grande Chapter

Jeff Arterburn

The 13th annual Gila River Festival was held September 21–24, 2017. It's a very well-organized event with a variety of activities, hikes and presentations. The theme for this year's festival was "Gather the Gila," with a focus on the natural food, medicinal and cultural resources available, and included an introductory fly fishing class and opportunity to learn about our native Gila trout. GRG-TU and MVFF members Jeff Arterburn, Ron Bellerose, Ron Belanger and John Trujillo taught a fly fishing class on Sunday Sept 24th with 14 students enrolled including 3 youths, and both locals and those traveling from Albuquerque, Santa Fe and Tucson. The group met that morning in Silver City and then traveled the scenic, winding route on NM 15 to Lake Roberts. The instruction was set up with stations featuring fly fishing equipment, rigging and flies, knots, and practice casting to work on the basic forward and roll casts, that wound up landing quite a few small fish in the lake on Ron's special fly's. The group then made the short hike into Sapillo Creek canyon, parking at the informational sign at the intersection of NM-15 and NM-35 and walking along the road to access the canyon in order to avoid problems with private property. The cool shade of the canyon was welcome for the group demonstration of small stream fishing tactics and a discussion of Gila trout and NMDGF regulations. We picked one accessible section of the stream and let the 3 youths try out what they learned, landing several small Gila trout. Reporter Benjamin Fisher who accompanied the group also had a close encounter with a rattlesnake that wasn't mentioned in his nice article

▲

describing the event that was published in the Silver City Daily Press:

<http://www.scdailypress.com/site/2017/09/25/gila-river-fest-gathers-crowds-native-treasures/>

See the group photo on page 5.

Willow Creek Working Group

A group of agency staff and TU volunteers will be meeting to coordinate efforts focusing on the restoration of Willow Creek. Planning will include determining how the outside groups can best complement and expand upon what the U.S. Forest Service is doing and planning. One specific task will be discussion of revisions for the 'Share with Wildlife' proposal for construction of beaver dam analogs so that we can be ready for the next round of funding or other opportunities that might arise. ▲

MVFF San Juan Trip

Chuck Mueller

The Club San Juan trip is fully subscribed at this time. If you have questions please contact Chuck Mueller at 575-647-4045 or email at mueller@mvff.org. ▲

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:

- October 1–5—Lady Anglers trip to the Gunnison area of Colorado.
- November 5–8—Club trip to the San Juan. ▲

MVFF Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 18, 2017

Submitted by Jeff Arterburn, Secretary

The MVFF Board meeting was called to order by David Carmichael at 7:00pm in the NMDG&F Conference room. Board members present were: Jeff Arterburn (Secretary), David Carmichael (President), Tom Johnson (Vice President), Will Lubenau, Chuck Mueller and Bob Silver. Board members absent were: Evan Claassen, Dennis Lanpher and Gary Mann (Treasurer). Non-Board members in attendance were: Ron Bellerose, Jim Hulsey, Tom Wobbe, Jim Laird and Dillon Martinez.

1. **Meeting Minutes.** The minutes from the August 21, 2017 Board meeting were approved as published in the September 2017 issue of the newsletter.
2. **Treasurer's Report.** The Treasurer's report and current account balance statement of \$13,481.89 was presented by Tom Wobbe, and accepted by the Board. Two actions are required:
 - a. account check signing authority needs to be updated;
 - b. replacement for the treasurer and a designated back up will need to be identified.
3. **Membership Report.** Currently there are 186 paid members. Tom and Bob have been working with the database, importing addresses from aol into gmail. Email notification of pending removal from future MVFF communications was sent to those members with dues in arrears.
4. **Project Healing Water.** Ron is taking 2 veterans to Silver Creek, AZ for a fishing trip during the first week in October. He is holding fly tying sessions on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Counseling Center Las Cruces and this month had 4 veterans participate. He is also leading a fly tying session on last Wednesday of month (1-3pm) at Las Cruces VA clinic. A PHW event titled "Healing Saturday" will be held on Sept 30th at Sportsman's Warehouse. Ron is working with the Ft Bliss Wounded Warriors group and will be setting up dates for fly tying and fishing trips. Because of budget reductions these participants are now required to provide their own transportation. Ron will send out notifications when help is needed with these events, but potential volunteers should be aware that in many cases only short notice can be provided.
5. **Gila/Rio Grande Chapter of Trout Unlimited.** Jeff Arterburn reported plans for the GRG-TU and MVFF providing a Fly Fishing Class as part of the Gila River Festival that will be held on Sunday Sept 24th. The full enrollment for the class has already been met. The group will meet in Silver City 8-8:30 am, then travel to Lake Roberts for instruction and practice casting, and then hike into Sapillo Creek to demonstrate stream fishing tactics. The participating instructors include Jeff Arterburn, Ron Bellerose, Ron Belanger and John Trujillo.
6. **NMSU American Fisheries Students.** The new AFS President is Dillon Martinez who attended the board meeting. Possible dates for fly tying session and trip to lease were identified and will be used to schedule two monthly events: October 15, 21 or 22nd; November 11 or 12.
7. **MVFF Board Members Needed.** The board discussed pending vacancies and the need to recruit new board members interested in helping manage the club. At least two board positions will need to be filled. The treasurer position and backup, membership, and Education/Kid's Fishing Clinic lead are all key roles that need to be filled. Requests for interested members will be made in the newsletter, email messages, and during the general meetings, with emphasis on the activities/roles required to help potential volunteers identify areas of interest.
8. **Presentations:**
 - a. The October 9th meeting will feature Tom Johnson describing a recent Montana Fly Fishing trip titled "The other Teton". Note that this is the Columbus Day Holiday. Ron will pick up the NMDGF Key the preceding Friday, and will set up the coffee pots.

Quick Look Contact Information

2017 Officers of the Club	
Officers	
• President:	David Carmichael (915) 204-7558
• V-Pres.:	Tom Johnson (417) 684-7075
• Secretary:	Jeff Arterburn (612) 720-3456
• Treasurer:	Gary Mann (575) 521-7793
Board Members	
• Position 1:	David Carmichael (915) 204-7558
• Position 2:	Tom Johnson (417) 684-7075
• Position 3:	Jeff Arterburn (575) 524-0773
• Position 4:	Evan Claassen (402) 239-1289
• Position 5:	Will Lubenau (575) 442-1912
• 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) 649-2946
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
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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.

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.

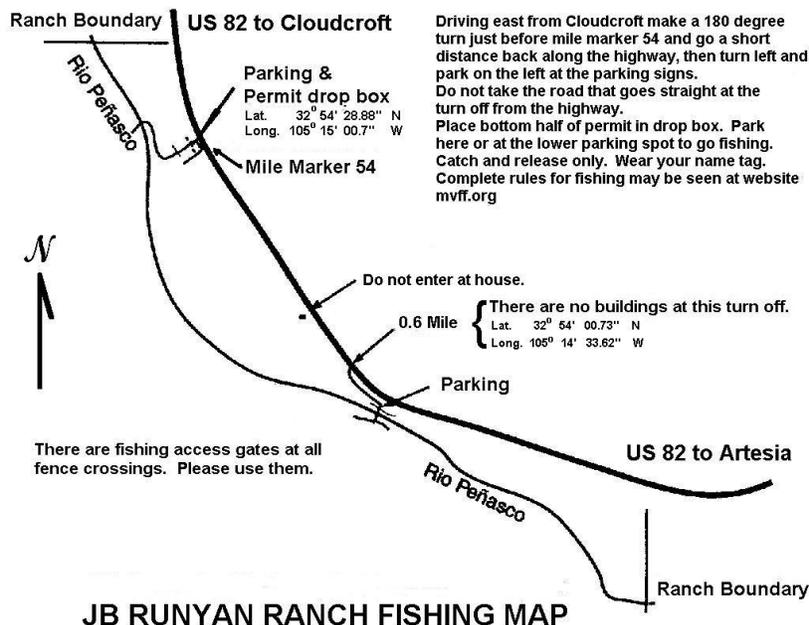
1 Year	\$20	Individual
	\$25	Family
3 Years	\$50	Individual
	\$60	Family
Life	\$400	Individual
	\$500	Family

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.