# MESILLA VALLEY FLYFISHERS, INC.

# Tale Waters



# April 2010

Mailing Address: MVFF, P.O. Box 2222, Las Cruces, NM 88004-2222
Website: www.MVFF.org

#### \*\*\*\*\* REMEMBER \*\*\*\*\*\*

#### **MVFF MEMBERSHIPS & NM FISHING LICENSES EXPIRED ON 31 MARCH**

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#### **Membership Meeting**

Monday, 12 April

The monthly membership meeting will be held on 12 April at 7:00pm in the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. Bob Silver and Jeff Arterburn will give a presentation on Fishing the 2010 Conejos Superfly Tournament. It promises to be very interesting and entertaining. Coffee and cookies will be served.

#### **Executive Board Meeting**

Monday, 19 April

The MVFF Executive Board will meet on Monday 19 April at 7:00pm in the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. All members are welcome to attend.

# **Liars and Tyers**

Wednesday, 28 April

Liars and Tyers will meet Wednesday 28 April at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room starting at 7:00pm. The group will be tying the *E.C. Caddis*. The tying session will be led by Tim Mack. Tim manages the Sportsman's Elite flyshop in El Paso and is a professional tyer. A photograph and recipe is presented later in this newsletter. Don't miss out. Extra vises and supplies available for beginning tiers.



#### **President's Corner**

The topic of the April 12<sup>th</sup> Club meeting is Fishing the 2010 Conejos Superfly Tournament and highlights of the river. The tournament is April 9, 10 and 11<sup>th</sup>. There are two teams from MVFF

competing in this year's tournament. Jeff Arterburn and Jon Cook aka the "J&J team" and Brad Schuster and Bob Silver, the "B&B" team. We decided to make this fun by giving the program on the next day after the tournament. You guessed right – we will be editing the slides on the way back home for the meeting. So this will literally be the freshest program ever presented in MVFF history. I just hope we catch fish. To see where we'll be fishing go to the following link: <a href="http://www.gartholson.net/horca/conejoswebcam.php">http://www.gartholson.net/horca/conejoswebcam.php</a>. Doors at the New Mexico Department of Games and Fish office on Northridge will open at 6:30pm. Coffee and cookies compliments of Tom Wobbe.

Kids Fishing Clinic is April 17th at the Alumni Pond next to the Pan Am Center on the NMSU Campus. The event starts at 8am and we can always use volunteers. Typically we have 75 youngsters and parents learning about fishing by going through a series of educational stations. Once they complete the circuit of stations, they try catching the fish stocked in the pond by the New Mexico Game and Fish. Pizza is served about 11:30am and then we give away prizes to each youngster through a drawing.

Tackle Class and Mentoring Program. On February 27th Jeff Arterburn and I held a Tackle Class for the MVFF Lady Anglers. We would like to do this for the rest of the Club as part of a mentoring program for anyone interested in learning more about fly fishing regardless of experience level. This would cover tackle, rigging, knots, flies as well as a trip or two to the lease. Please contact Jeff Arterburn or me if you want to participate. We'll set up a time to meet and a location based on the level of interest. This is part of a campaign to get more members Out and Fishing.

Please check the MVFF website for Club events and trips this spring, summer and fall. We are organizing a late spring or early summer trip to Quemado Lake for muskies, a trip in late June or early July to the Conejos River and a fall trip to the San Juan. We have a couple of more months before coming to a decision on a Kodiak, AK trip. I would also like to hear from members if there is enough interest in planning a group trip. A stream improvement project is in the works with Matt Schultz of the New Mexico Environment Department tentatively for June to help restore Gilita Creek and we would also like to plant willows at the lease this spring as well.

Finally, GET YOUR 2010-2011 FISHNG LICENSE, <u>And</u> REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR MVFF MEMBERSHIP TOO.

Come to the April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting to see the slides of the Conejos and how we did in the Tournament.

Regards!

**Bob** 

# **MVFF Lady Anglers**

Helen Zagona

MVFF Lady Anglers will be having a weekend retreat and guided fishing outing at the MVFF Lease waters

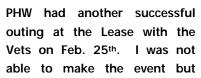
on April 24 and 25. A large turnout has already signed up for this first fishing trip of the season.

MVFF Lady Anglers includes women of all levels of experience and skills including many beginners. We mentor women who would like to learn this great sport. Future trips this season for the Lady Anglers are in the planning stages. For information, contact Helen Zagona (hzagona@yahoo.com) or 532-5668 or Mary Hoffman at maryfranlc@gmail.com.



Ron Bellerose

**PHW Coordinator** 



understand that all the Vets caught fish on the river on their last outing. Thanks to all the volunteers that made this a success.

We will be trying to work with White Sands Military in the coming months to increase our Vet involvement with PHW and to increase the awareness of MVFF. We had a total of 30 Vets that took part in the last session of PHW which included a fly tying, a casting and a fishing session. Eighteen were present for the fishing at the lease. We had over 60 volunteers to cover the three events for the Vets and a lot of volunteer hours.

We have succeeded in getting NM fishing permits for the Vets participating in PHW. The request for permits has to come from Ft. Bliss to the Game & Fish. They will be allowed 5 permits a year. This should help with the stress of getting individual oneday licenses for the Vets.

Plan on the next adventure next September.

For more information about PHWFF see <a href="https://www.projecthealingwaters.org">www.projecthealingwaters.org</a>.

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Contact Ron Bellerose (575-680-5516), roncor@hotmail.com) if you wish to volunteer to help out.

# **Kids' Fishing Clinic**

Saturday, 17 April, , 9:00am-2:00pm Volunteers are needed for this event.

New Mexico Department of Game & Fish and Mesilla Valley Flyfishers will co-sponsor a Kids' Fishing Clinic on Saturday, April 17 from 9:00am -2:00pm at Alumni Pond at New Mexico State (located West of the Pan American Center.)

The event is open to all children and their parents, but especially for kids 6-11 years old, with little or no fishing experience. Topics will include getting started, casting, fly tying, fishing rules and regulations, fish ID, hooks & knots, insects and other topics. The program is free to children age 11 and under. Those 12 or older must have a New Mexico fishing license. Free lunch at noon.

Bring fishing gear, sunscreen and jacket. Those without fishing gear may borrow some at the clinic. Free prizes and goodies for the kids. An adult must accompany children attending the event.

Pre-registration is required at New Mexico Department of Game & Fish by calling 532-2100.

# **Black Canyon Creek Project**

Sat. & Sun., April 10 - 11

MVFF members who participated last year in the restoration project on Black Canyon Creek may be interested in a follow on project being planned.

Matt Schultz of the NM Environment Department is seeking participants for the Black Canyon Creek Volunteer Monitoring/Restoration Weekend for April 10th and 11th. Volunteers can start arriving Friday April 9th. This year will mainly focus on monitoring the effects of the project as it is in its final year so it will be more informative to students and a bit

mellower than last year. They will be demonstrating a series of monitoring techniques including: geomorphology with a total station, thermograph deployment/retrieval/download, canopy cover with densiometers (although this would simply be a demo since the trees won't have leaves), and stream temperature modeling with SSTEMP.

More restoration activities can be added as people and interest allow. Possible activities could be to continue the restoration process by taking a tour of the restoration site, and by identifying gaps in vegetation and planting more willow whips.

If you are interested in participating in the activity or for more information contact Matt at matthew.schultz@state.nm.us. Matt needs a list of participants by the 7th of April.

### **Club Outings Planned**

The board is now discussing possible outings for 2010 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.

- Spring Quemado Lake
- April 24-25 Lady Anglers will be fishing the Rio Peñasco lease.
- October San Juan
- Oct. 1 Conejos Lady Anglers

#### **Welcome New Members**

John Harmston Hobbs, NM
Foster Mayer, Jr. Las Cruces, NM
Ron & Lisa Sanders Carlsbad, NM
L.E. & Linda Smith Las Cruces, NM



# Gila Trout Fishing in Iron Creek

Paul Turner



In late September of 2009 Michael Wilcox from Juneau, Alaska joined me for a backpacking trip into the headwaters of Iron Creek in the Gila Wilderness Area. I had hiked into this stream many times with my family and students during sampling trips and to participate in recovery efforts to eliminate brown trout from the headwaters above an artificial barrier built by the US Forest Service in 1981.

We were joined on this trip by Kirk Loy and his assistant who were hired by the New Department of Game and Fish to shoot some video footage for a TV program that was to air in 2010. The first day we meet Kirk at the Sandy Point trailhead (9300 feet in elevation) and backpacked in 5 miles to Hummingbird Saddle on Trail 182 where we set up camp at 10,500 feet. The next morning we broke camp and hiked to Trail 172 on the east side of Whitewater Baldy and turned east along the ridge north of Iron Creek until we hit the unmarked trail that drops into Iron Creek at the artificial barrier. This took longer than I had expected because of poor trail conditions and taking time to video portions of our hike, but we did get to flyfish for Gila trout after we set up our tents upstream from the barrier. The weather was perfect with bright sunshine and pleasant temperatures for our early fall trip.

We also fished the next morning before hiking the 9 miles back to our cars that afternoon. Michael and I hiked into Whitewater Creek via Trails 722 and 207 to its junction with the South Fork of Whitewater Creek for some flyfishing the next day before driving back to Las Cruces in time to join other MVFF members for our October fishing trip on the San Juan River.

Michael and I had a great time together while he was in New Mexico. You can check out the video footage (total time less than 9 minutes) of our Iron Creek backpack by visiting <a href="https://www.youtube.com/NMGameandFish">www.youtube.com/NMGameandFish</a> and clicking on Fishing and Fish Management and then scrolling down to the segment on Fishing for Gila trout and our hiking trip.



#### **MVFF Monthly Events Calendar**

| Month | Events                                      | Trips | General Club Meeting<br>Topic/Speaker   | Clinics or Lease Projects  |
|-------|---|-------|---|--|
| March | Liars & Tyers 25 Mar. Black Half & Half Ant |       | 8 Mar Bob Widgren will present a program on Fishing for Tiger Muskies.          | 7 March - Casting Clinic<br>18 or 25 March - PHW fishing trip<br>to the Lease.   |
| April | Liars & Tyers<br>29 Apr.<br>E.C. Caddis     |       | 12 Apr B. Silver & J. Arterburn will present Fishing the 2010 Conejos Superfly. | 10 - 11 April + Black Canyon<br>Creek Project<br>17 April - Kids' Fishing Clinic at<br>Alumni Pond, NMSU<br>24-25 Apr Lady Anglers Outing<br>to Rio Peñasco. |
| May   | Liars & Tyers<br>27 May                     |       | 10 May - Program tbd  | Club trip to Quemado Lake  |



#### E.C. Caddis

The center of attention for the Liars and Tyers this month will be the E.C. Caddis.



Hook: TMC 100 #14 - 16 Thread: Uni 8/0, olive or brown Tail: Antron Thread. Amber or Yellow

Body: Brown/Amber/Light Olive Super Fine Dubbing

(option: pheasant tail fibers)

Wing: Bleached Elk Hair

Thorax: Bright Green or Chartreuse Antron
Hackle: Brown, Dark Dun or Grizzly Cock Hackle



#### **MVFF Board Meeting Minutes**

Monday, March 22, 2010 Submitted by Jim Sorenson, Secretary

The MVFF Board meeting was called to order at 7:00pm in the NMDG&F conference room by President Bob Silver. In attendance were Bob Silver, Chuck Mueller, Jim Sorenson, Paul Turner, Randall Vallee and non-Board members Jim Hulsey, Tom Wobbe, Vicki Vallee and Randy Tettleton.

- 1. Minutes of the February Board meeting were approved as published in the March newsletter.
- The Treasurer's report presented by Tom Wobbe was approved. The Club has a balance of \$12,730 and the Mabie Scholarship fund has a book value of \$11,003.
- Tom Wobbe reported there are 245 current members, including 14 new members since January 1, 2010. 135 members have not paid their annual dues yet. ANNUAL DUES FOR 2010 ARE DUE MARCH 31, 2010.
- 4. Chuck Mueller reported that Project Healing Waters will make a trip to the lease on February 25. Volunteers are needed.
- At the April general meeting, Bob will ask for volunteers to sit at a booth at the Las Cruces Shooting Fair on April 24th at Butterfield Range. If there are not enough volunteers, we will decline the invitation.

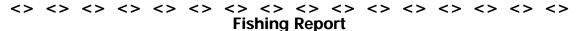
- 6. The Kids' Fishing Clinic will be held on Saturday, April 17. Tom Wobbe will call Academy Sports in El Paso to see if we can obtain additional prizes by donation or at a discount so that each child who attends will receive a prize.
- 7. Bob Silver will circulate a list of Committee members. Each of the Committees will select a lead member. There was a brief discussion regarding term limits for committee chairs. It was decided that the incoming President would ask each chair whether he or she wished to continue to serve.
- 8. A motion to purchase one rod from Winston at a 45% discount was approved.
- 9. Bob Silver will discuss techniques for fishing the Conejos River in April. Bob Silver will talk to Brad Schuster and Vicki Vallee will talk to Dr. Bundy to see if there is someone at NMSU who can give a presentation on stream entomology in May.
- Chuck Mueller will talk to John Bailey to see if he would be available to speak at the Annual Meeting in January 2011.
- 11. There was a discussion regarding whether it is a conflict of interest for officers and directors to serve on the Board of the TU chapter and MVFF.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

# **Project Healing Waters**

Chuck Mueller took photos from each of the three sessions with the soldiers and made the collage shown below. He sent enough copies to Fort Bliss for each participant to have one.





The following report was filed from the MVFF website. date = 3/22/10, location = Lease, reporter = Devon Fletcher, other fishermen = Matt Galfano, water\_vol = Moderately High, water\_clarity = Murky, air\_temp = upper 60's, weather = Some clouds throughout the day. Very little wind. Warm in the sun. hatches = a few feeble hatches between 10am and 11am and then again around 4pm. I'm not the one to ask what they were. details = We caught a total of 9 fish. Two were chubs. The rest were rainbows. Matt caught 3 fish in

the 10-12 inch range from the deep pool where the cave formations are. I caught one 14" rainbow close to the upper boundary of the lease. I saw only one fish feeding on the surface. We had to fish deep with split shot. We only covered the upper half of the property, so I can't really speak for the lower half where the stocking was done.

#### **Quick Look Contact Information**

# 2010 Officers of the Club

President:

Officers

Bob Silver (575) 522-6325 V-Pres.: Chuck Mueller (575) 647-4045 Secretary: Jim Sorenson (575) 525-1050 Treasurer: Gary Mann (575) 521-7793

**Board Members** 

Position 1: Paul Turner (575) 523-6880 Position 2: Jim Sorenson (575) 525-1050 Position 3: Jeff Arterburn (575) 524-0773 Position 4: George Thomas (575) 532-5614 Position 5: George Sanders (575) 527-5536 Position 6: Chuck Mueller (575) 647-4045 Position 7: Bob Silver (575) 522-6325 Position 8: Gary Mann (575) 521-7793 Randall Vallee (575) 373-9470 Position 9:

**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

Total \$11,003 Earnings available 410

# 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 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.

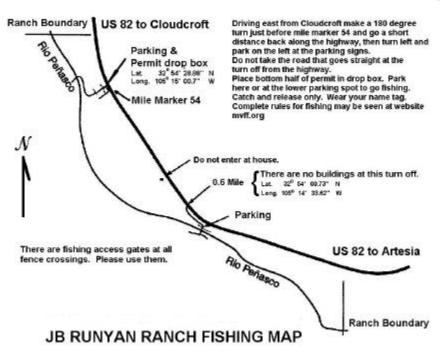
| 1 Year  | \$20  | Individual |
|---------|-------|------------|
|         | \$25  | Family     |
| 3 Years | \$50  | Individual |
|         | \$60  | Family     |
| Life    | \$400 | Individual |
|         | \$500 | Family     |

#### **Lease Information**

Permits to fish the Club leased waters on the Rio Peñasco can be obtained from Jim Hulsey (575-524-1880), Tom Wobbe (575-522-5437), Donna Mabie (575-522-3810) in Las Cruces and the Sportsman's Elite fly shop (915-587-4867) in El Paso. 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/Cell Phone:   | Home Phone:    |             | email:                   |  |  |
| Are you a current member?                                      | Yes            | _ No        |                          |  |  |
| Do you need a name badge? _                                    | Yes            | _ No        |                          |  |  |
| New Membership   | or renewal     | l?          |                          |  |  |
| Membership Categories:   | Individual     | Family      | Circle the one desired.  |  |  |
| 1 Year   | \$20           | \$25        |                          |  |  |
| 3 Years  | \$50           | \$60        |                          |  |  |
| Life   | \$400          | \$500       |                          |  |  |
| For family membership: Nam                                     | e of spouse _  |             | No. of children          |  |  |
| Note: All memberships expire<br>1 January will expire on 31 Ma |                |             | ips received on or after |  |  |
| Membership fee if a  |                |             |                          |  |  |
| Adult Permits @ \$2!   | 5 per permit = | <b>\$</b>   |                          |  |  |
|  |                | Total = \$  |                          |  |  |
|  |                |             |                          |  |  |

Send remittance with this form to the address shown at top of page.