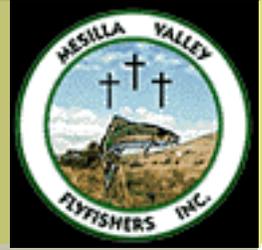


Tale Waters

February 2009



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

Website: www.MVFF.org

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Membership Meeting

Monday, 9 February

The monthly membership meeting will be held on 9 February at 7:00 PM at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. Jeff Arterburn will give a talk titled "*Bonus Days; Winter Tailwater Fishing on the Arkansas and San Juan Rivers.*" Coffee and cookies will be served.

Executive Board Meeting

Monday, 16 February

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

Liars and Tyers

Thursday, 26 February

Liars and Tyers will meet Thursday 26 February at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room starting at 7:00 PM. The group will be tying the *UV Midge Larvae*. The tying session will be led by Tim Mack. Tim manages the ATF flyshop in El Paso and is an accomplished 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

I am pleased to welcome you to this February 2009 Edition of *Tale Waters*. Mesilla Valley Fly Fishers is a dynamic and enjoyable group that enables members to express the joy of flyfishing in many forms, with a history of providing members with first-rate fishing experiences, engaging their abilities to share knowledge, teaching and learning new techniques, and introducing new devotees and encouraging kids to follow the allure of the long rod. I look forward to the events of the coming year with a great deal of excitement and anticipation.

Flyfishing has been a constant thread through my life, providing deep satisfaction and enjoyment with a strong connection between family and friends. I even like to think that my passion for flyfishing extends philosophically to my day job as a chemistry professor at New Mexico State University, where in my lab we "tie" really small flies to fish for proteins! Membership in MVFF has provided camaraderie and sparked some of the best friendships of my life.

This past year was a great one for the over 200 active members, hosting a variety of successful events, and initiating a rewarding project healing waters program. The year was capped by a fantastic Banquet and workshop featuring Scott Sanchez. All in attendance appreciated the outstanding fly tying demonstration, discussion of strategies employing sinking lines, active participation in the casting demo, and an engaging banquet presentation examining how different foods connect the habits of flyfishing. Speaking for the members, family and friends in attendance, I offer a special thanks to the program

organizer Gary Mann, and the other "above-and-beyond" members who helped pull off this event, especially Tom Wobbe, Jim Hulse, Ron Belarus, and Richard Keding. I encourage all of the prize winners and the rest of us MVFF supporters to thank the businesses and individuals who donated such desirable prizes for the raffle, and please remember their generosity whenever possible when planning your next purchase.

I will be presenting a slide show for February 9th Club Meeting titled "*Bonus Days; Winter Tailwater Fishing on the Arkansas and San Juan Rivers.*" This overview provides an example of how you can take advantage of opportunities in our region to extend the fishing season, avoid summer-time crowds and experience great fishing in the midst of our busy lives.

During the next few weeks I ask each of you to consider what you want MVFF to be? We encourage you to attend club meetings, participate in activities that include organized trips, kids fishing clinics, fly tying, habitat improvement/restoration projects, and interactions with other groups and organizations. Do you want to find other members to fish with, whether it's a spontaneous day trip or an extended expedition? Are you interested in rod building, casting clinics or other opportunities to acquire or develop new skills? MVFF can facilitate the introductions and communications to help you fulfill your expectations. We are very interested in identifying club members who are willing to give presentations on fishing trips at the club meetings, so please consider sharing your experience in this way, and I guarantee that others in attendance will appreciate your efforts. There are a tremendous variety of fishing venues in our region, and many of you specialize and have unique experience with some of those special places, so it's not all just about big fish! Join in the club leadership by participating in various existing committees or starting new ones, members are always welcome to attend Board meetings. As past experience shows, MVFF is able to achieve great accomplishments through the collective effort of the members. Please let us know what you want.

I hope to see you streamside.

Jeff

Scott Sanchez Workshops

Those of you who missed the Scott Sanchez workshops on Saturday, January 17 really missed a treat. Thirty eight people showed up at the NMDG&F conference room to watch Scott tie. He tied several flies and gave many tips and pointers on methods to simplify and speed up the process. All attendees received a handout showing the recipes for the various flies. At lunch the club provided deli sandwiches. During this time Scott gave pointers and critiques to those who brought their vises and tried to duplicate his flies. From 1:30-3:00pm, the activities moved to Alumni Pond at NMSU where Scott demonstrated casting techniques, discussed how and when to use weighted lines, presentation tips, etc.

Photos of the activities are shown later in this newsletter.

Annual Club Banquet

The premier event of the year for MVFF, the annual banquet, was attended by over 80 people. First order of business was dinner. The food was delicious and there was more than could possibly be eaten. Dinner was followed by introduction of new officers, presentation of several awards, a presentation by featured speaker Scott Sanchez and then the raffle. A list of raffle items and winners is presented later in the newsletter.

Everyone had a great time and if they left hungry it was their own fault. The banquet is one of the best times to meet and visit with other members of MVFF and if you haven't attended you should make an extra effort next year.



Randall Vallee, MVFF Coordinator

MVFF has had its first Volunteer meeting of 2009, for our Project Healing Waters group (PHW). We will be starting with a "new program" February 5, 2009. For those who were unable to attend our volunteer meeting, we would like to let you know what we have planned for the big day.

Our morning will start at the R&R in Fort Bliss at 8:30am. We have a short introduction of our volunteers planned as well as a short PHW video before we split the soldiers up into two groups for fly tying and casting clinics.

For those who were not able to attend the Volunteer meeting, but plan on helping out in the future please contact myself, Chris Evey, Tom Wobbe or anyone in our PHW group. We are looking forward to a great new year of working with our active duty soldiers that will lead up to a big day of fishing.

For those who live in Las Cruces:

We will be meeting at Sportsman’s Warehouse at 6:30am so that we might carpool to Ft. Bliss. We ask that you please be prompt so that no one is left behind.

For those volunteers who live in El Paso:

Please meet at the main gate (Cassidy gate) of Fort Bliss. There is a parking lot located to the right as you come in the gate where you can park. Please be there no later than 7:45am and those from Las Cruces will meet you there so that we can go in as a group.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact either **Randall Vallee** at 575-382-6959 or **Tom Wobbe** at 575-6429-0388.

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, who has volunteered to chair the "Outings" committee.

Welcome New Members

Richard Evans	El Paso, TX
Neal Gronich	El Paso, TX
Frank Hoffman	Las Cruces, NM
Don LeClere	Wheat Ridge, CO
Terry O’Conner	El Paso, TX
Larry Orme	Las Cruces, NM
Clayton & Victoria Seale	Las Cruces, NM

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Raffle Winners

	Item	Donor	Winner
1	Gift card	Sportsman’s Warehouse	Sam Moore, Jr.
2	Gift card	Sportsman’s Warehouse	Christopher Evey
3	Gift card	Sportsman’s Warehouse	Sam Moore, Jr.
4	Gift card	Sportsman’s Warehouse	George Thomas
5	Gift card	Sportsman’s Warehouse	Ray Rodriguez
6	Gift card	Sportsman’s Warehouse	H. Steinhoff
7	Gift card	Sportsman’s Warehouse	H. Juarez
8	Gift card	Sportsman’s Warehouse	Tom Lightfoot
9	Gift card	Sportsman’s Warehouse	Karen Erickson
10	Gift card	Sportsman’s Warehouse	Michael Jarvis
11	Saltwater Trout Flies	Scott Sanchez	Marsha Buchanan
12	New Generation of trout flies	Scott Sanchez	Jamie LaPage
13	Fly fishing support belt	Donna Mabie	W. Cotter White
14	Leather reel case	Donna Mabie	L. Ocepek
15	Fly tying tool set	Cabelas	Jim Hulsey
16	The Bahama’s Fly Fishing Guide Book	Angler’s Book Supply	L. Ocepek
17	Master Vise	Cabelas	Glendon Paulk
18	Beginner’s Fly Tying Kit	Cabelas	Dennis Hammett

19	FFF Fly pattern Encyclopedia book	Al Beatty-BT Fly Fishing Products	Jim Ellett
20	Magnifier and Hat magnifier	Mageyes	Audrey Keding
21	Fit-over Navigator Sunglasses	Jonathan Paul Eyewear	Francis Smith
22	Fit-over Navigator Sunglasses	Jonathan Paul Eyewear	Manny Rodriquez
23	Fit-over Navigator Sunglasses	Jonathan Paul Eyewear	Wade Hedgecoke
24	Fly Tying starter Kit	Wapsi	Adrian Tafoya
25	Large Lunch Bag	Fishpond	Tom Korsmo
26	Ross Reel-Flycast 1	Sportsman's Warehouse	Ron Bellerose
27	Fine Art of Angling Book	Angler's Book Supply	Jim Ellett
28	84 Piece Trout Fly assortment	Cabelas	Bob Silver
29	2 Dozen leaders and 18 boxes of hooks	Dan Bailey's Fly Shop	Tom Wobbe
30	Temple Fork Rod-2 piece 7'6" 3wt Signature	Sportsman's Warehouse	William Pitts
31	Temple Fork Rod 2-piece 8' 4wt Signature	Sportsman's Warehouse	Dave Medlek
32	Ross Reel-Rhythm	Sportsman's Warehouse	Jim Hulsey
33	Ross Reel-Rhythm	Sportsman's Warehouse	Mary Hoffman
34	Fishpond Vest Doublehaul Chestpack	Sportsman's Warehouse	Sam Moore, Jr.
35	Fishpond Vest Doublehaul Chestpack	Sportsman's Warehouse	C. Sallaz
36	Temple Fork Rod 4 piece 7'9" 4wt Finesse	Sportsman's Warehouse	George Gompf
37	Sportube fly rod transport system with case support bar	ATF Fly Shop	Alex Montes
38	Winston Rod 9' 4wt biix model fast action	MVFF	Jim Bradley

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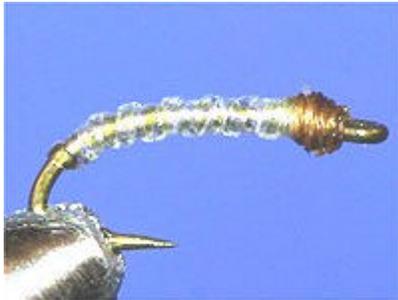
UV Midge Larvae

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

Originally designed by Rick Takahashi and Ross Purnell this fly works well on tail waters like the San

Juan. The UV Krystal Flash gives it a glow that fish can't resist.

Tim Mack says this is one of his go to flies for the San Juan. You can use it as the first fly on your rig or as a dropper behind an egg or leech pattern.



- Thread:** UNI 8/0 white
- Hook:** TMC 200R #18 to #22
- Under body:** White thread under UV Pearl Krystal Flash or Flashabou
- Over body:** Midge or Micro Tubing - clear
- Head:** White Thread marked with a brown marker



MVFF Monthly Events Calendar

Month	Events	Trips	General Club Meeting Topic/Speaker	Clinics or Lease Projects
Jan. 2009	Liars & Tyers 29 Jan. <i>Lightning Bug</i>		No monthly membership meeting - Banquet instead.	17 Jan. - Scott Sanchez Fly Fishing Clinic. And annual banquet.
Feb.	Liars & Tyers 26 Feb. <i>UV Midge Larvae</i>		9 Feb. - Jeff Arterburn to talk on <i>Bonus Days; Winter Tailwater Fishing on the Arkansas and San Juan Rivers</i>	5 Feb. PHW workshop at Ft. Bliss
Mar.	Liars & Tyers 26 Mar.		9 Mar. - Program tbd	
Apr.	Liars & Tyers 30 Apr.		13 Apr. - Program tbd	

MVFF Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 12, 2009

The MVFF Board meeting was called to order at 7:00pm in the NMDG&F conference room with Paul Turner presiding.

In attendance were Board members: Paul Turner, George Thomas, Tom Wobbe, Gary Mann, Randall Vallee, Jeff Arterburn, George Sanders and Donna Mabie. Visitors: Vicki Vallee, Tom Lightfoot, Jim Hulsey, Richard Keding, Chris Evey and Ron Bellerose. Absent: Bob Silver.

1. Minutes of the December 2008 Board Meeting were approved as published in the January 2009 newsletter.
2. The Treasurer's Report presented by Gary Mann was approved. The Report shows the Club to have a balance of \$13,636. Cost of the Saturday banquet day activities will be approximately \$3,000 with \$2,000 being recovered by the workshop fees and the other \$1,000 expected to be covered by the sale of raffle tickets at the banquet.
3. Forty-seven people have signed up for the workshop with Scott Sanchez. The Schedule of

Activities was presented and discussed. It included the flytying sessions in the morning, the lunch that the club was to provide, the flycasting in the afternoon at the Aggie Pond and the banquet at St. Paul's United Methodist church in the evening.

4. Randall Vallee presented an update on the status of upcoming *Project Healing Waters* activities
5. There will be a meeting for the *Project Healing Waters* volunteers prior to the first class of 5 Feb.
6. President-elect Jeff Arterburn presented an agenda for the Saturday session with Scott Sanchez and for the evening banquet.
7. Tom Wobbe reported that there are 206 paid members in the Club.
8. The question was asked if there was room for a chat room on the MVFF website and Jim Hulsey, Web Page Editor, replied that the Club presently does not have the required software for the forum.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

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Scott Sanchez Fly Tying Workshop



Fishing Report

Rio Peñasco Lease, 1/18/09

David Carmichael, El Paso

After getting all charged up listening to and learning from Scott Sanchez, I just had to get out on the water and start catching some of the first trout of the New

Year. In the interests of sharing some quality time together, I brought along my daughter who is already a skilled angler but who is new to fly fishing. The weather was gorgeous; in fact, it was unseasonably warm. Although it was 38 degrees when we stopped for fresh muffins in Cloudcroft, by the time we made it to the lease, temperatures were in the upper 40s; for most of the day it was in the 50s with a light breeze. It seems as though spring has already arrived on the

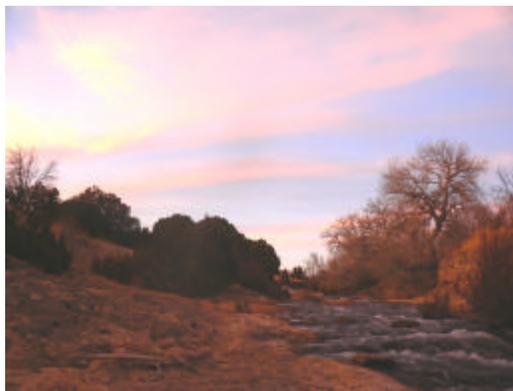
Peñasco. The willows upstream from Cave Pool are already budding, making them all the more effective at attracting and snaring our flies. Once on the river, we were visited, up close and personal, by several deer and a large flock of wild turkeys.

The water is still high, but it's clearer than it was a few weeks ago; not clear enough for effective sight fishing, but clear enough that the flies were more apparently more visible to the fish than was the case a couple of weeks earlier; at least I had more takes this time. We fished the upper portion of the lease where we saw a very modest BWO hatch about noon, with tricos also coming off in a few places. In no case did we see any surface rises; the few rises we did see were all on emergers just below the surface, and based on where we saw them, they seem to have been taking the tricos, not the blue wing olives. We tried fishing some BWO imitations, but all the action was on nymph and egg patterns.

During the Scott Sanchez workshop, Tim Mack from ATF Fly Shop told me about a weighted egg and nymph rig, and that's what we fished the next day.

My daughter and I found it to be somewhat unwieldy, given the length of the leader below the strike indicator, but it was effective. We combined for 16 fish, (all rainbows and no browns), the largest of which was a chunky 15 incher. All of my daughter's fish were caught on our home-made egg patterns, and all of mine took a green copper john or tungsten bead head flashback PT. We each lost two or three of the egg and nymph rigs to tree roots or those pesky willows, but the setup triggered plenty of takes.

As a bonus feature, I'll submit an informal product review, for the Rodmounts RODLOFT Pro interior rod carrier system. I recently purchased a new Scott rod and I tried it out on the Peñasco; it was great! I also recently purchased the RODLOFT Pro in an effort to protect that great new rod... you know, so I wouldn't have it partially broken down in the back of the car while driving to the lower part of the lease, or to protect it while it was drying after "standing in a river waiving a stick" all day. Well, even after practicing at home, I broke the rod tip in two places while attempting to insert it in the RODLOFT hanger. I won't be using that rod rack very much, at least not for fly rods. Now we'll see about the Scott



lifetime warranty
Tight lines,

Annual Banquet 2009



Quick Look Contact Information

2009 Officers of the Club	
Officers	
• President	Jeff Arterburn (575) 524-0773
• V-Pres.	Bob Silver (575) 522-6325
• Secretary	Donna Mabie (575) 522-3810
• Treasurer	Gary Mann (575) 521-7793
Board Members	
• Position 1	Paul Turner (575) 523-6880
• Position 2	Randall Vallee (575) 373-9470
• Position 3	Tom Wobbe (575) 522-5437
• Position 4	George Thomas (575)
• Position 5	George Sanders (575) 527-5536
Newsletter & Web Page Editor	
• Jim Hulsey (575) 524-1880	newsletter@mvff.org

Norm Mabie Scholarship Fund	
Principle Account	\$10,930
Operating Account	0
Total	\$10,930

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.

Angler's Nook

Donna's Shop is open as usual. Please contact her at (575) 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.

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.



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.

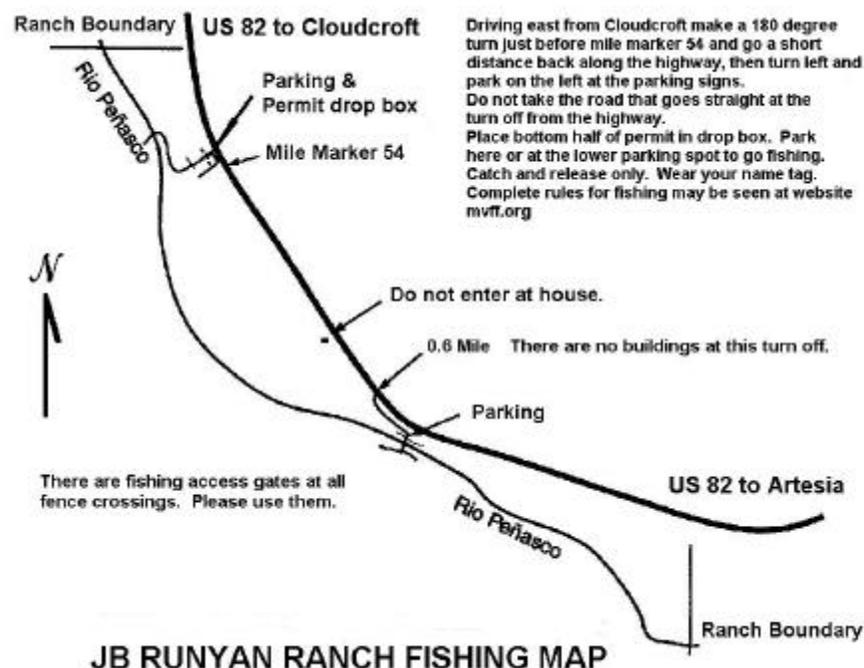
1 Year	\$20	Individual
	\$25	Family
3 Years	\$50	Individual
	\$60	Family
Life	\$400	Individual
	\$500	Family

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 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.