



TALE WATERS

A Monthly Publication of

Mesilla Valley Flyfishers, Inc.

P.O. Box 2222

Las Cruces, NM 88004-2222

www.MVFF.org

February

2018



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

Liars and Tyers

Wednesday, 28 February

Liars and Tyers will meet on Wednesday 28 February at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room starting at 7:00pm. The fly to be tied is the *Frenchie Jig Nymph*. 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

Annual Banquet Recap



I am pleased to report that our annual club banquet was quite a success. We had a great turnout with about 100 members and guests in attendance to hear Carol Morris' presentation, "Fly Fishing Photog-

raphy 101: How to Capture What You See." Carol also made an afternoon presentation about her approach to art and illustration, and how she and her husband Skip have gone about getting their work published. We even had the opportunity to try our hands at making a water color painting. That talk was a first for Carol, and she was pleased that twenty club members attended the session. When Miriam and I took Carol and Skip to the airport, they mentioned how much they appreciated the hospitality shown them by the MVFF. They also noted that they sold more books and artwork in Las Cruces than they did at the two shows they did in the Los Angeles area the weekend before. Thanks for everyone's support of our visitors! There was something in Carol's presentations for everyone, and I hope we'll all be back on the water soon, taking even better photographs.

The prize committee put together more than \$3,000 of merchandise for the raffle, including artwork by Carol Morris and three fly rods. Thirty-six different people won prizes, the list of which is presented

Membership Meeting

Monday, 12 February

The MVFF general membership meeting will meet on Monday 12 February at 7:00pm in the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. The program will feature Brad Shellanberger, owner and guide of Wolf Creek Anglers Fly Shop based in Pagosa Springs and South Fork Colorado. 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, 19 February

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

elsewhere in the newsletter. Two additional fine art prints by Carol Morris were framed and as awards to Tom Wobbe (former President and Membership Chair) and Gary Mann (Treasurer) for their many years of service to the club. We missed seeing Jim and Earlene Ellett at the banquet as they were feeling under the weather, but a \$100 gift certificate to The Lodge in Cloudcroft is being delivered to them in appreciation for their continued support of our club lease.



Tom Wobbe receiving award for his many years of service on the MVFF board, and as Membership Chair (Julie Mueller photo)

For the first time, our banquet was fully catered by Sparkey's, and as usual, the food was savory and filling. Due to changes in the New Mexico food handler rules, this is the approach we plan to follow in the future; if you have any comments or suggestions about the arrangement, please make them known to one of the board members. If you enjoyed the food, drop Josie or Teako a line and let them know!

News and Views

Our next meeting of the general membership will be 7pm on February 12 at the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish facilities. Our guest speaker will be Brad Shallenberger, owner and guide at Wolf Creek Anglers in South Fork, Colorado. Brad fished throughout the trout waters of Arizona, guided in Utah and at Lees Ferry, and in Yellowstone country before purchasing Wolf Creek Anglers. He will discuss the fishing opportunities on the upper Rio Grande, upper San Juan and other waters around South Fork, and will provide information on the local hatches and lodging at Rio Grande Vacation Rentals. I think there may be a good opportunity to set up a

club trip to that area, so I hope to see many of you at the meeting.

People get into fly fishing for a variety of reasons, and they make different levels of commitment and different kinds of contributions to the sport. Some anglers are chasing their first or next 50-fish day, while others would like to fool a couple of small native trout with a dry fly they've tied themselves. Some want a "hero shot" documenting their landing of a trout in the 20 inch class. Some are teaching a grandchild when and how to set the hook. Some of us are seeking solitude in the hidden corners of distant watersheds, while others are spending time exploring with our significant others the beautiful places where trout live. Many people have reached a time in their lives when they no longer fish very much, but they are often still involved in tying flies, building rods, teaching casting techniques, making photographs, contributing to club activities, and getting involved in conservation efforts. There are roles for all of us in the fly fishing community.

Fly fishing is one area where people of all sorts should be able to agree on a few basic issues. A few years ago I heard that former Vice President Dick Chaney nearly joined the Mulcock Ranch fishing club. We probably would disagree about some things, and I wouldn't want to stand next to him while he is casting, but I would certainly share the river with him. Whatever our level of involvement in the sport, whatever our political preferences, all fly anglers should be united by one basic fact: if we are fishing for trout or other salmonids, we all need to be sure there is clean, cold water habitat for the species we pursue. Even if we fish for warm water species, the water and watersheds need to be clean and unpolluted. Therefore, it is incumbent on all of us to pay attention to what our elected officials and land managers do with the lands, waters, watersheds and other natural resources that affect our sport.

As anglers and sportsmen, we find ourselves at a critical time in our country's history, a time in which our public lands and natural resources are under more or less constant pressure from would-be developers and others who would privatize public lands. Many of us had hoped it would be otherwise, as our president assured the country he was committed to the preservation of clean water resources. However, within the

first year of the current administration, there are clear signs that the extractive industries have greater influence than ever within the Executive Branch. Recent



Spawning sockeye salmon, Bristol Bay watershed, Alaska (Trout Unlimited photo)

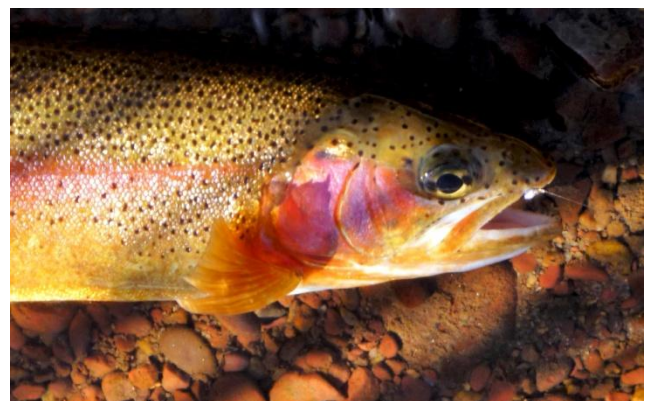
news regarding the Bristol Bay watershed in Alaska is instructive. Bristol Bay, along with its tributary headwaters and wetlands, is home of the world's premier sockeye salmon fishery, and one of the best rainbow trout fisheries in the world. It has once again dodged a bullet, at least temporarily, but only because of a massive public outcry against the Pebble Mine which is still being proposed by the Northern Dynasty mining company.

The Clean Water Rule was published on May 27, 2015, to clarify what constitute Waters of the U.S., and therefore, which waters would fall under the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act. The rule was written after more than 1 million public comments and in response to more than 1,000 peer-reviewed scientific studies indicated that headwater streams and wetlands (like those connected to Bristol Bay) warranted protection from activities that would introduce pollution into them. The State of New Mexico and several other western states filed legal briefs against the rule, and it has been on hold, awaiting action by the current administration.

In May, 2017, after a closed door meeting between EPA administrator Scott Pruitt and the CEO of Northern Dynasty, Pruitt directed the EPA to withdraw protections that had previously been implemented for Bristol Bay. On June 27, 2017, Pruitt overturned the Clean Water Rule, removing protections for more than half of the nation's streams and wetlands. This action contradicted the principle of connectivity of streams and wetlands to downstream water quality, and once again opened up waterways and mountaintops to pol-

lution from mining. However, since the May ruling, a groundswell of public outrage resulted, and the EPA has received an additional 700,000 public comments in favor of keeping the protections in place. Last October, Northern Dynasty unveiled the latest plan for the mine, and on December 21, 2017, they applied for permits to develop the Pebble Mine in the streams and wetlands in the headwaters of the Bristol Bay drainage. It appeared that a foreign owned mining company and the forces in our government working against conservation, science and public lands protection had prevailed.

Remarkably, on January 29, 2018, Pruitt announced unexpectedly that he "will not withdraw the Clean Water Act 404(c) Proposed Determination in the Bristol Bay watershed which would, if finalized, restrict mining. That is, he will keep the proposed protections on the table for the time being, because "any mining projects in the region likely pose a risk to the abundant natural resources that exist there" (Trout Unlimited, *Big News on the Pebble Mine Front*, 1/29/2018). It seems certain that the receipt of nearly 2 million public comments, representing citizens from all walks of life and from all parts of the political spectrum was instrumental in influencing this unexpected decision. This doesn't mean that the fight to save Bristol Bay is over, but it is a major win for everyone who appreciates and/or benefits from the Bristol Bay fisheries. Anyone interested in supporting the ongoing efforts to protect the fishery from pollution and support the locals whose livelihoods are most threatened by diminished water quality may purchase wild, sustainably harvested salmon directly from the fishermen at the Pride of Bristol Bay website on the Internet. Booking a fly fishing adventure with a Bristol Bay outfitter would help too. Thanks for all you do, and tight lines! [↑](#)





Ron Bellerose
PHW Coordinator

Project Healing Waters is getting very active. In January we had two fly tying events and two fishing events. One of the fishing events was in Arizona's Silver Creek. Thanks to the Tucson Project

Healing Waters group we had one of our Vets fish the creek. Fishing was good and the trout was running from 16 inches up to 26 inches with most around 20 inches.

At the Las Cruces Expo we got \$163 in donations. At the MVFF banquet we received \$246 from the raffle and another \$218 from donations for the items on the table.

We will have three fly tying events in February and hope to have a couple of fishing events to the lease and Grindstone.

I am still looking for an Alternate Program Lead to help with the planning of fly tying, casting and fishing events.

We are looking to get back to Arizona the end of March. The Arizona Game and Fish Ranger is working with Project Healing Waters groups and will let us fish the special area for the big trout. Catch and release.

Thanks to the MVFF club for the support you give to 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. [↑](#)

Club Provided Fishing Assistance

By Bob Silver – Membership

From time to time Club members have asked for help with tackle questions or tips about fishing. More members are fishing the lease right now and the waters up north will be opening soon. We want to provide a service if you need help to start the New Year off right. One way we can help is being available after

the regular monthly Club meeting, which is the 2nd Monday of the month. The next meeting will be Feb 12th. After each meeting adjourns several of us will stay to answer questions or “fix” tackle issues. If you have a problem with your tackle let us know in advance by sending an email explaining what the issue is. If needed, we will bring “supplies” to help solve the problem. Send an email to mvffclub88011@gmail.com.

Also we have been asked to plan a trip for new members to become familiar with the lease. My plan is that each month someone from the Board or a Club volunteer will organize a first timer’s trip to the lease. I need to discuss dates with the Board so that we can schedule those trips between February and May 2018. Please check your email for the schedule. [↑](#)

Annual Kids’ Fishing Clinic

Saturday, 24 March

Mark your Calendar

The annual Kids’ Fishing Clinic will be held on Saturday, 24 March at Alumni Pond, NMSU from 9am until 2pm. Tom Johnson will be leading this effort for the Club. He needs lots of volunteers so get in touch with him at Johnson@mvff.org to let him know you’re ready to help. [↑](#)

Raffle Prize Winners

Following is a list of winners of the prizes raffled at the Club banquet held on January 27, 2018. Congratulations to all.

ITEM	
Carol Morris Donations	
Flies	Debbie Hamlyn
Green Drake Print	John Kennedy
Fly Rods	
Widgren Custom Sage	Brad Schuster
Winston Boron IIIIX	Ray Rodriguez
Cabelas Rod & Reel Combo	Bear McKinney
Fish Pond	
Nomad Native Net	Ryan Zeigler
Nomad Hand Landing Net	G. Rasper
Cimarron Wading Duffle	Bob Silver
Delta Sling Pack	Josie Nunn
Simms Wading Staff	Tom Wobbe

Ketchum Hook Remover	John Mossman
Mangrove Sun Gloves	Chuck McNally
Rio Trout Lt Fly Lines	
Deb Widger, Robert Ardivino, George Sanders, Fred Flores, John Merritt, Matt LaDriere	
MFC – Camo Fly Boxes	
Mary Hoffman, Harry Palmer, Julie Mueller, Brad Shuster	
Trout Hunter – Leader & Tippet Material	
Blaine Goss, J. Quarrell, Frances Curtis, Pat Lamb, Cheryl Chandler, Maureen Atkins, Jerry Schickedanz, Chuck Mueller, Helen Butt, Tom Johnson, Justin Butt, Pat Lamb, Bob Silver, Chuck Mueller, Julie Mueller, Ron Balanger, Yoli Bandwell, John Kennedy	

[↑](#)

Mesilla Valley Outdoor Expo

Jeff Arterburn reported good attendance at our booth at the Mesilla Valley Outdoor Expo held at the Las Cruces Convention Center January 13–14, 2018. Bob Silver and Jeff Arterburn also presented a seminar Saturday afternoon titled "Get Started Fly Fishing." A Las Cruces Sun News reporter interviewed the volunteers and an article was published in the Sunday newspaper. There seemed to be strong interest in learning about fly fishing, and several visitors mentioned that they came specifically to see our booth. The group handed out 90 Gila Trout posters. [↑](#)

Gila/Rio Grande Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

Angler and Scientist: Why should you get involved in a citizen science project?

A citizen science project is any activity where volunteers are involved in the scientific process, conducting experiments, gathering and analyzing data, making discoveries, and solving problems. With lean agency budgets, understaffed departments, and recent large-scale wildfire that has heavily impacted our watersheds it is critical to have the public involved in large-scale conservation projects. The U.S. Forest Service Citizen Science Fund supports projects in which USFS staff team with volunteers in a collaborative approach to resource management.

Working with the USFS Region 3, Gila National Forest, Reserve Ranger District, the Gila/Rio Grande Chapter of Trout Unlimited recently submitted a "CitSci" pro-

posal titled "Willow Creek Watershed Restoration and Management for Ecological Integrity". Funding will enable our team to characterize the current condition of aquatic and riparian habitats in Willow and Little Turkey Creeks. This project presents an exceptional opportunity for volunteers to contribute towards a comprehensive and collaborative plan for restoration and recovery of the watershed. If funded, our team



Volunteer Angler Scientists making stream measurements in Willow Creek, Gila National Forest (Photo by Jeff Arterburn)

will work with Natural Channel Design, Inc. in its efforts to develop a Watershed Based Plan that will help the U.S. Forest Service design a Watershed Restoration Action Plan for the Gilita Creek 6th code watershed in which Willow Creek is located. Without this type of collaborative effort, the project would likely not be funded.

Anglers will appreciate the plan to restore Willow Creek to a high quality Gila Trout fishery! Our volunteer work projects are a lot of fun, you'll meet some great folks and share campfire camaraderie, and you should bring your fishing gear! Stay tuned for more details as we schedule the 2018 volunteer workdays.

For more information about the CitSci Fund program see: <https://www.fs.fed.us/working-with-us/citizen-science/competitive-funding-program>. [↑](#)

Board Selects Officers

The selection of officers and committee chairs for 2018 was completed at the January, 2018 board meeting. Selected were:

- David Carmichael (President)
- Tom Johnson (Vice President)
- Jeff Arterburn (Secretary)

Chuck Mueller (Treasurer)
 Jim Hulsey (Newsletter & Website)
 Bob Silver (Membership)
 Dillen Martinez (NMSU AF Students) [↑](#)

New Members

Fred Flores	Las Cruces, NM
Carlos Armendariz	Las Cruces, NM
James Dean	Hobbs, NM
Joseph LaJeunesse	Belle Plaine, TX
Terry Dean	Las Cruces, NM
Martin Santana	El Paso, TX
Jesse Johnson	Las Cruces, NM
John Mossman	El Paso, TX
Chuck Widger	Las Cruces, NM
Jodie Matejcek	Las Cruces, NM
Steve Kirby	Las Cruces, NM ↑

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.

There are no trips presently being planned. [↑](#)

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Frenchie Jig Nymph



Hook: TMC C400BL or Daichi 4647

Bead: Slotted Tungsten bead copper or gold or any type of slotted bead

Thread: Fl Orange or Fire Orange

Tail: Coq de Leon

Tag: Thread

Abdomen: Pheasant tail

Rib: Copper or Gold small ultra wire

Thorax: UV Orange or Pink Shrimp Ice Dub

Hot Spot: Thread whip finished

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13 Habits of Highly Effective Anglers

(credit belongs to Denekti Outdoors, www.denekti.com)

How can you become better at fly fishing? I came across the following article from Denekti Outdoors. Here are 13 tips that help and are shared in common by anglers who catch fish, plus one (#14) that I added from my own experience and observation. — Bob Silver

1. **Check your knots.** Every single time they tie a knot; effective anglers give it a good tug to make sure it's strong and seated correctly. Every time. It is very unusual for a really good angler to 'break one off'. Practice tying knots so that you can tie them quickly.
2. **Keep your hooks sharp.** Almost any time he touches his fly, a great angler will check its point

to make sure it's sharp. If it's not, he'll sharpen it or replace it.

3. **Organize your gear.** It's kind of obvious when you say it this way, but having the right gear for the situation, organized so you can find what you need, helps a lot. If you look inside the gear bag of an effective angler, you don't see a big pile of doo doo.
4. **Fish the near water first.** Anglers who catch a lot of fish always make some short casts into the near water first. If you tromp right into the run and launch one out to 70 feet, your chances of catching that fish right on the bank are exactly zero.

5. **Listen to your guide.** You're fishing with a guide for a reason – she knows the water better than you do. Truly good anglers don't get all chest-thumpy and think they know better than their guide – they let their guide do her job, and listen to what she says, and then they catch more fish.
6. **Keep your fly in the water by minimizing false casts and re-casts.** You're only fishing when your fly is in the water. False casting and re-doing slightly sub-par casts wastes time and increases the chances that you tangle your line, snag your buddy, etc. A fly in the air catches no fish – keep it in the water, even if it wasn't the best cast you ever made in your life.
7. **Keep the fly in the water by not constantly changing flies, sinktips, etc.** Wasting a few seconds at a time by false casting too much is one thing...wasting 5 minutes at a time by constantly changing your rig is brutal. We're trying to keep today's article positive, but in this case we'll say it like this – the least effective anglers we know burn an hour or more per day re-rigging when it makes little to no difference. Focus on presentation and keep it in the water.
8. **Take what the day gives you.** Fishing is complicated, and a bunch of variables impact what kind of techniques are going to work well on any given day. Effective anglers aren't rigid about their plans – they look at weather, water conditions and more, and base their plan on those variables. They know that over the long term they'll be able to fish the way they want to fish, and that they'll have a lot more fun and catch a lot more fish in the process.
9. **Let the fish eat.** How often have you heard someone say “man, I was way too slow on the hook set”? OK, if you're fishing for permit maybe so, but in most freshwater situations it's a far more common sin to set the hook way too early. Relax and let him eat it!
10. **Practice your casting.** Golly this is such a no-brainer that it's shocking how rarely supposedly 'aspiring' anglers do it. Good anglers practice their casting, especially before a big trip. We'll invoke the Pebble Beach metaphor yet again – would you really spend all the time and money to go play Pebble Beach for 4 hours without going to the driving range a few times first? Of course not – so why do so many anglers spend \$5,000+ and 9 days on a fishing trip without practicing their casting even 2 or 3 times for 10 minutes each? The world will never know. Don't even get us started on brand new rods and lines...you're swinging that new club for the first time on the first tee at Pebble? Really?
11. **Never stop learning.** Truly great anglers know that they can learn something about fishing from almost anybody. Get a bunch of actual experts together and you'll find that they're constantly asking each other questions, trying new techniques, changing things up and keeping an open mind. That's a big reason they're as good as they are. If you think you don't have a lot more to learn about fishing, you're wrong.
12. **When in doubt, check for knots in your leader, a fouled fly, etc.** Effective anglers don't want a boneheaded problem to screw up a fish on which they've done everything else right. When they throw a tailing loop (when, not if) they check to make sure they don't have a wind knot. If they've been fishing an articulated pattern for a few minutes, they strip it in to make sure it's not fouled. If you have any doubt, make sure your rig is right.
13. **Stay positive.** If you're mad about your bad casting or that fish you just lost or the guy who just low-holed you or the new cover sheet for the company TPS report, you're not going to catch very many fish. This is a fact. Effective anglers are anglers who are positive and grateful to have the opportunity to spend a day on the water. This is a very powerful effect that we don't totally understand – you certainly fish better when you're happier, but beyond that somehow the universe just knows.
14. **Finally...Get your eyesight checked.** I knew I needed glasses when I started to fish the San Juan and began using size 24 flies. As I get older I need them all the time to read and to do close up work. Stop fuddling with your knots if you need glasses. Get them and it makes the whole fly fishing experience much more fun. [↑](#)

Carol Morris' Presentation

(Photos by Julie Mueller)



Banquet

(Photos by Julie Mueller)



MVFF Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 15, 2018

Submitted by Jeff Arterburn, Secretary

The MVFF Board meeting was called to order by David Carmichael at 7:02pm in the NMDG&F Conference room. Board members present were: Jeff Arterburn (Secretary), David Carmichael (President), Jim Hulsey, Bob Silver (Membership), Chuck Mueller (Treasurer), Dillen Martinez, Jim Sorenson and Tom Johnson (Vice President). Board Members absent: Robert Ardovino. Non-Board members in attendance: Ron Bellerose.

1. **Meeting Minutes.** The minutes from the December 18, 2017 Board meeting were approved as published in the January 2018 issue of the newsletter.
2. **Treasurer's Report.** The Treasurer's report with current account balance statement of \$9,599.50 was presented by Chuck Mueller, and accepted by the Board.
3. **Membership Report.** Bob Silver reported 202 active members, with 4 new members joining at the expo.
4. **Project Healing Waters.** The program is looking for someone to serve as a new volunteer lead/alternate, particularly to help manage the fly tying sessions, fishing trips to the lease, etc. Ron will post a notice in the newsletter. Ron reported that Karen Ericson has been working with the Donna Mabie estate and plans to donate remaining fly tying and related materials to PHW. He also reported that he was able to distribute many PHW info brochures at the Expo and generated a great deal of interest. He is pursuing new avenues of leadership to support a nascent program at Ft. Bliss. Ron has organized a 2-day PHW trip to Silver Creek, AZ at the end of month. The Tucson PHW chapter is graciously paying for their food costs. Ron recently observed evidence of trespass and bait fishing activities on the Rio Penasco lease. David will discuss these issues further with Jim Ellett.
5. **Gila/Rio Grande Chapter of Trout Unlimited.** Jeff Arterburn reported good attendance at our booth at the Mesilla Valley Outdoor Expo held at the Las Cruces Convention Center January 13-14, 2018. Bob Silver and Jeff Arterburn also presented a seminar Saturday afternoon titled "Get Started Fly Fishing." A Las Cruces Sun News reporter interviewed the volunteers and an article was published in the Sunday newspaper. There seemed to be strong interest in learning about fly fishing, and several visitors mentioned that they came specifically to see our booth. The group handed out 90 Gila Trout posters. Promising new discussions about possible future cooperative events with the NM NWTf Women in the Outdoors organization were initiated and will be reported as they develop.
6. **NMSU American Fisheries Students.** The regional AFS meeting will be held Feb 1-3 in Flagstaff, AZ where the NMSU students will be competing in the quiz bowl. The students would also like to participate in casting and fly tying classes, and a planned trip to the Rio Peñasco possibly on one of the last two weekends in February (17-18 or 24-25). They are also interested in helping with a Rio Peñasco clean-up project. Dillen will email the AF members to determine interested participants and communicate with the board to set up the events.
7. **Presentations and Events.** MVFF Annual Banquet Saturday January 27, 2018, details will be provided in the newsletter. The banquet speaker Carol Ann Morris will conduct a workshop Saturday afternoon (2-4pm) describing her experience as a professional artist and photographer, and how she has successfully navigated the publishing field. David has been collecting a list of interested participants, and the group will meet at the Game at 12pm for lunch, afterwards proceeding to the NMSU conference room #297 located in Gerald Thomas Hall. The doors will be locked so attendees will need to arrive no later than 1:45pm in the parking lot located west of Gerald Thomas Building, on Knox Street. Volunteers for helping to set up the banquet tables and chairs should plan to arrive at St. Pauls by 4:30pm. The doors will be opened to attendees at 5:00pm, and the plan is to start dinner at 6pm. Several options are under consideration for providing the coffee,

questions remained whether or not Sparky's would be able to provide coffee, or if it is possible for us to use the church facilities, or whether to purchase containers from Starbucks. The board authorized planning food for 110 attendees. Members are reminded of the major difference this year being that the banquet will not be a "pot luck", due to new state regulations for food handling, and there will be a cost for attendance of \$10 for adults, with youth's under 18 admitted free. With each admission price paid the attendee will get 2 raffle tickets (\$10 value). The catering will be provided by our favorite restaurant: Sparky's Burgers, Barbeque and Espresso in Hatch, NM.

The February 12th meeting will feature Brad Shellanberger, owner and guide of Wolf Creek Anglers Fly Shop based in Pagosa Springs and South Fork Colorado.

Possible speakers for the March and April meetings were discussed. David Carmichael has prepared a presentation on "Why bother keeping a fly fishing journal?" There has also been interest from members in the club for hosting a casting clinic by a certified casting instructor. Dave will contact Bob Widgren to discuss possible availability for the March 12th or April 9th meetings, with a casting class on the preceding Sunday. Dave has also contacted Molly Semanik and will discuss her availability for the 2019 Banquet.

- 8. **Board & Committee Activities, Needs, and Discussions.** The appointment of officers and committee chairs was completed:

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- David Carmichael (President)
- Tom Johnson (Vice President)
- Jeff Arterburn (Secretary)
- Chuck Mueller (Treasurer)
- Jim Hulsey (Newsletter & Website)
- Bob Silver (Membership)
- Dillen Martinez (NMSU AF Students)
- Robert Ardovino (Board Member)
- Jim Sorenson (Board Member)

The MVFF check signature authority will include Chuck Mueller, Bob Silver, Jim Hulsey, and Tom Johnson.

- 9. **Rio Peñasco Lease.** The club is planning a Rio Peñasco river cleanup workday. Dave will also discuss recent issues involving possible trespass and bait-fishing activities with Jim Ellett. Multiple reports indicate the lease has been fishing really well since the last stocking, with several new deep pools and other holding water and good mayfly hatches stimulating active feeding. The board authorized an appreciation gift for the Elletts.
- 10. **Kid's Fishing Clinics.** Tom Johnson will take the lead on the next Kids' Clinic which is scheduled for March 24th, 2018.
- 11. The next MVFF Board Meeting is scheduled for February 19th. Chuck will pick up the key. Meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm. [↑](#)

Quick Look Contact Information

2018 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:	Chuck Mueller (575) 647-4045
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:	Jim Hulsey (575) 524-1880
• Position 5:	Robert Ardovino (575) 589-0653
• Position 6:	Chuck Mueller (575) 647-4045
• Position 7:	Bob Silver (575) 522-6325
• Position 8:	Jim Sorenson (575) 525-1050
• Position 9:	Dillen Martinez (505) 401-3640
Newsletter & Web Page Editor	
• Jim Hulsey (575) 524-1880	newsletter@mvff.org
Membership Committee Chairman	
• Bob Silver (575) 522-6325	membership@mvff.org
NMSU AF Student Representative	
• Dillen Martinez ()	

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, to purchase fishing access permits to the MVFF leased waters on the Rio Peñasco and to participate in other Club activities such as an 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.

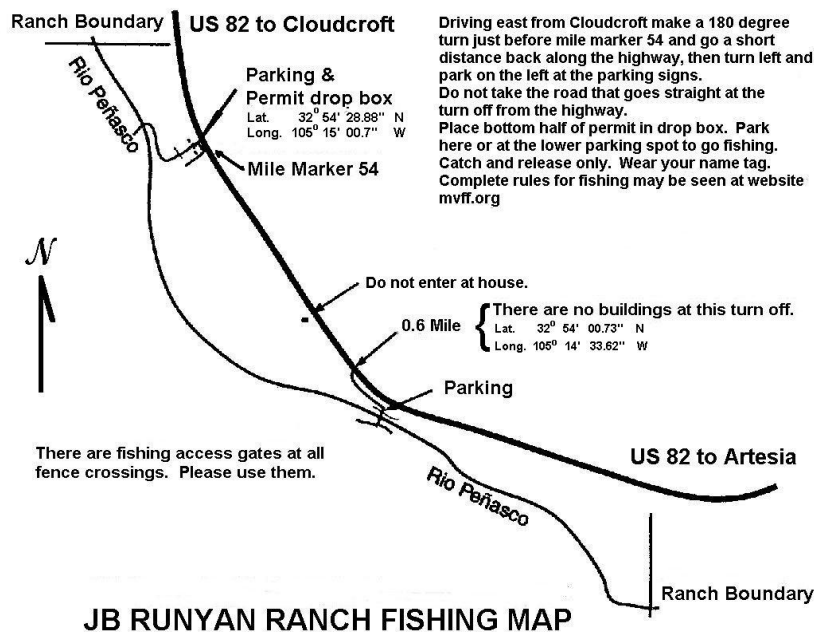
1 Year	\$20	Individual
	\$25	Family
3 Years	\$50	Individual
	\$60	Family
Life	\$400	Individual
	\$500	Family

Lease Information

Permits to fish the Club leased waters on the Rio Peñasco can be obtained from Jim Hulse (575-524-1880) or Bob Silver (575-522-6325) 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 Hulse. 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.