



# TALE WATERS

A Monthly Publication of

Mesilla Valley Flyfishers, Inc.

P.O. Box 2222

Las Cruces, NM 88004-2222

www.MVFF.org

January

2015



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Membership Meeting .....	1
Executive Board Meeting .....	1
Liars and Tyers .....	1
President's Corner .....	1
Project Healing Waters .....	2
Annual Banquet & Raffle .....	3
Items for MVFF Raffles .....	3
Rod Raffle .....	4
Mesilla Valley Outdoor Expo .....	4
Club Outings .....	4
New Members .....	4
Board Meeting Minutes for December .....	6

## Membership Meeting

Monday, 12 January

The MVFF general membership meeting will meet on Monday 12 January at 7:00pm in the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. The special speaker will be club member Noah Parker. Noah, as most of you know, runs the Land of Enchantment Guides and always presents an interesting program. Doors open at 6:30. Cookies and coffee will be served.

## Executive Board Meeting

Monday, 19 January

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

## Liars and Tyers

Wednesday, 28 January

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



2014 was another successful year for MVFF:

- In January, we had a booth at the Outdoor Expo, did some "friend-raising" and increased our visibility in the community.
- We had our annual banquet in February with over 100 people in attendance. Van Beacham did an outstanding job as our guest speaker; we all shared an outstanding meal and some camaraderie; and the Club made a little money on its annual raffle.
- Project Healing Waters had two events during the year for the soldiers from Ft. Bliss. Forty plus soldiers were introduced to fly tying, fly casting and fly fishing at the Lease and treated to fantastic lunches by the local ranchers' wives and other members of the Cow Belles. In addition, Ron Bellerose and other volunteers helped local veterans with fly rod building, fly tying and numerous fly fishing excursions.
- Besides our own Kids' Fishing Clinic in April—where 120+ kids and their parents were treated to free fishing at Alumni Pond plus pizza and prizes—volunteers from the Club assisted the NM Department of Game and Fish with its "Free Fishing Day" in June and its week-long fishing program for special needs and after-school students from the Las Cruces Public Schools. In turn, the Club was recognized the Aquatics Division of the NM DG&F as its "Volunteer Organization of the Year".
- Throughout the Spring, Bob Silver and George Sanders led a series of fly rod building classes to assist a dozen or more Club members in building their own fly rods. Other educational

opportunities included seven or eight monthly sessions of "Liars and Tiers" where Tim Mack or Ray Rodriguez taught the finer points of fly tying to 20 or more aspiring fly tiers; a mentoring program in which Chuck Mueller, Bob Silver or others introduced new members to fishing the Lease; and our monthly general meetings where we had guest speakers on a range of topics related to fly fishing and conservation.

- Chuck Mueller organized two Club trips to the San Juan River and one to the Big Horn in Montana. Bob Silver led expeditions to the Conejos River in Colorado in July and to Kodiak, Alaska for silver salmon in October.
- The MVFF Lady Anglers had two trips in 2014 for women fly fishers only—one to the Lease in the Spring and on to the Gunnison and Taylor Rivers in Colorado in the fall.
- We continued our support of and affiliation with the NMSU Chapter of the American Fisheries Society and two of its members—Dominique Lujan and Hunter Falco—were recipients of a \$500 scholarship each from the Norm Mabie Memorial Scholarship Fund.
- Finally, the Club held a Spring Rod Raffle and a Fall Rod Raffle. In both instances, sales of the raffle tickets exceeded the cost of the rods to the Club but, more importantly, two Club members ended up with a custom-made, high quality rod for a pretty nominal investment.

I apologize in advance to any group or activity that I inadvertently left out, but I wanted to show how the Club continues to be a dynamic organization that is actively involved in its community. Of course, all of this can't happen without committed members and volunteers. A huge thank you to all of the members who volunteered their time last year and an invitation to every Club member to be engaged in the Club's activities in the coming year. If you have an idea for a Club trip, a speaker or an activity, please email me at [president@mvff.org](mailto:president@mvff.org).

We have a new Board member, John Kennedy, who was elected at the December meeting. John is a retired lawyer who recently moved to Las Cruces from Minnesota and is a relatively new member in the Club. In addition, John has volunteered to serve as the Club's secretary for 2015. All other Board members,

officers and committee members remain the same as in 2014.

We have several events coming up. The Club will again have a booth at the Outdoor Expo at the Las Cruces Convention Center from Friday, January 9 to Sunday, January 11. We need volunteers to staff the booth and help NMDG&F with its kids' fishing pool. Noah Parker, the proprietor of Land of Enchantment Guides and a good friend of the Club, will be our guest speaker at the January General Meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup>. Our annual banquet is on February 7<sup>th</sup> this year with Landon Mayer as the guest speaker. The annual raffle has \$6,000 in prizes, including four guided trips. This is our most ambitious raffle ever, please buy raffle tickets to help support it.

Finally, fishing at the Lease is reported to be very good. The days are starting to get longer and January always has a stretch of nice weather. No excuses.

Tight Lines,

Jim



Ron Bellerose

PHW Coordinator



Project Healing Waters is going strong. I just sent my 4<sup>th</sup> quarter report in and we had a great quarter. We had 32 new Vets, 2 new volunteers, 7 fly tying events, 1 casting event and 10

fishing events. We also had a total of 93 Vets participating in the events for a total of 674 hours. We had 57 volunteers for a total of 742 volunteer hours.

We will be working the Outdoor Expo with the MVFF at the convention center in January. Also, with the stocking of the University pond and Young Park our Vets are able to get more fishing and casting practice and the fishing has been really great. We tie flies on the last Wednesday of the month at the Las Cruces VA Clinic. Thanks to Ray Rodriguez's expert fly tying teaching we have had a great turn out at the Clinic. Also, Tim Mack has been instrumental in the fly tying with the Ft Bliss wounded warriors transition battalion. I have a limit of not more than 8 Vets to

participate with that group and we have been able to use the Cloud Country pond just east of Cloudcroft for fishing.

Totals for the year for our Vets and Volunteers are as follows: 286 Vets for 1,856 Vet hours and 198 Volunteers for 3,040 Volunteer hours.

Thank you goes to our MVFF volunteers for making this program work. I am looking for a great 2015.

-----

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

## Annual Banquet & Raffle

Sat. February 7, 2015

The annual MVFF banquet and raffle will be held Saturday, Feb 7, 2015. The banquet will start at 6:00pm at St Paul's Methodist Church, which is where we have had it for the last several years (see map on page 5). Spouses and children are invited.

The guest speaker for the banquet will be *Landon Mayer*, renowned Colorado guide, author of numerous books, and presenting speaker at numerous international fly fishing shows throughout the United States. He also writes numerous articles for fly fishing magazines, most recently for Fly Fisherman and High Country Angler Magazines. His website is [www.landonmayer.com](http://www.landonmayer.com).

The club will provide BBQ brisket, pulled pork, sausage, red and green enchiladas and drinks, with members asked to bring salads and desserts.

Several raffles will take place following the dinner and are the richest (\$6,000) we have ever had. There are many top-of-the-line items. See the list of prizes in the following article. Raffle tickets will be E-mailed soon and will also be available at the January general & fly tying meetings. They will also be available at the banquet. You don't have to be present to win.

Mark your calendar as this is an event you do not want to miss!

Volunteers will be needed to set up the tables and chairs and prepare things in general. Volunteers should arrive about 4pm.

## Items for MVFF Raffles

Here's the list of prizes for this year's MVFF Banquet February 7.

### Door Prizes (must be present to win):

There will be a variety of door prizes awarded. Each person present will receive a ticket.

### Annual Attendance Prize:

The 2014 MVFF Attendance drawing winner, taken from the ticket stubs for meetings and formal club events collected throughout the past year, will win a 1-day guided trip for 2, wade or float, with Landon Mayer.

### PHW:

Ron Bellerose will be running a separate raffle during the banquet for a variety of prizes. Proceeds will go into the PHW fund.

### Fund Raiser Raffle:

#### Rods:

- Bob Widgren custom built Sage rod - 4 wt, winner's name will be added (\$795)
- Bob Widgren custom built Sage rod - 5 wt, winner's name will be added (\$795)
- David Carmichael custom built Winston rod (see description below) (\$895 value)

#### Reels:

- Galvan 'Torque' reel for 4 wt loaded with Rio Gold line (\$415 value)
- Lamson 'Lite Speed' reel for 5 wt loaded with Rio Gold line (\$415 value)

#### Gear:

- Fishpond 'Wasatch' Tech vest (\$190 value)
- Fishpond 'Bumpy Road' rolling cargo/duffel bag (\$190 value)
- Sims G3 'Guide' stocking foot waders (\$500 value)
- Smith Optics Chroma Pop Sunglasses (\$210 value)

#### Guided Trips

- 'Solitary Angler' (Van Beacham) 2-day guided trip for 2, wade and/or float (\$1,000 value)
- 'Sandstone Anglers' (John Tavenner) 2-day guided trip for 2, wade and/or float (\$750 value)
- 'Land of Enchantment Guides' (Noah Parker) 1-day guided trip for 2, wade and/or float (\$395 value)

## Rod Raffle

Editors note: The raffle held at the annual banquet will include 3 flyrods. They are all being hand built from kits. Two of them will be built on Sage blanks by Bob Widgren and the other will use a Winston blank and will be built by David Carmichael. Each of these builders exhibits the craftsmanship required to produce a rod that the winner will be proud to display and fish. David recently supplied the following description of the rod he is building.

"Winston Boron III LS, 9 ft. 4 wt. The LS series rods are lightweight, medium-fast rods with the famous "Winston Feel," especially well-suited to small stream and spring creek settings. The reel seat is standard Winston logo nickel silver with birdseye maple insert. Wraps are dark green with silver trim bands and alignment dots. I've added \$100 worth of upgrades: flor grade custom modified Struble half wells grip, Struble knurled winding check, Struble agate stripping guide, Snake Brand universal guides, and matching keeper and tip top. It is packed in a generic rod sock and the Healing Waters tube.

These rods are getting great reviews, especially for their softer action and resultant casting accuracy. (Retail list price is \$795, upgrade value of \$895)"

## Mesilla Valley Outdoor Expo

January 9-11, 2015

The Club will have a booth at the coming Outdoor Expo as we did last year. We will need volunteers to demonstrate fly tying and to just talk to people who visit the booth. If you can help out contact Chuck Mueller, 575-647-4045. The NMDG&F may need our help also if they have the kids' fishing pool as they did last year. The Expo will be held at the Las Cruces Convention Center and will be open during the following hours:

- Friday, Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> -- 1pm - 6pm
- Saturday, Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> -- 9am - 5pm
- Sunday, Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> -- 9am - 4pm

## Club Outings Planned

The board is now discussing possible outings for 2015 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:

- Spring - annual spring trip to the San Juan
- June 22 - 26 -- trip to the North Platte in Wyoming
- Fall - annual fall trip to the San Juan

## Welcome New Members

Alex Eberhardt	Lubbock, Tx
Eric Eberhardt	Lubbock, Tx
Rich Eberhardt	Lubbock, TX
Chase Tucker	Lubbock, TX

## Fishing Report for Rio Peñasco

Sat. December 27, 2014

**Fishermen** = Chase Tucker (reporter), Rich Eberhardt, Eric Eberhardt, Alex Eberhardt  
**Water\_temp** = Not sure, **Water\_vol** = Normal,  
**Water\_clarity** = Clear, **Air\_temp** = 20's  
**weather** = Partly Cloudy/sunny  
**Hatches** = Mayfly hatch, early afternoon  
**Details** = We are out of Lubbock, TX, and only being 3 1/2 hours away from this mile or so stretch of the Rio Peñasco - we had to try it out. This was our first time out there. We left Lubbock early in the morning, and with bad/snow weather, it took us longer than expected to arrive at the ranch. About when we got to the river the snow cleared and the sun came out. We started on the water at about 11:00am at the lower bridge, and worked our way up stream. We fished for a good 450 yards with only getting 2 strikes. We came up on a deeper stretch that was partially dammed up, and the water moved very slowly (it was like glass). I am not sure how deep this stretch was, but too deep to wade. We stood on the muddy banks and fished with deep double nymphs (about 4.5-5 feet deep) and immediately started getting strikes. With everyone trying different flies, we found that they were hitting the Pheasant Tail Beadheads the best. I landed 7 beautiful 10-12" rainbows (on Pheasant Tail Beadhead), and one 17-18" rainbow (on a Hairs Ear Beadhead). Both flies were size 16. The other fisherman landed a total of about 10 trout... and 5 or so chubs.

Once it all started slowing down in the early afternoon, a couple of the guys headed up stream, and me and my buddy noticed a few trout rising

around us. We noticed a small mayfly hatch mimicking blue wing olive. I threw on a size 18 blue wing olive and the real fun began. We immediately hooked up on a couple fish. Between me and my buddy fishing blue wing olives, we netted 5 rainbows, had over 5 fish on the line that spit the fly, and had at least 10-15 strikes where they missed the fly. We left mid-afternoon after the hatch ended to head back to Lubbock.

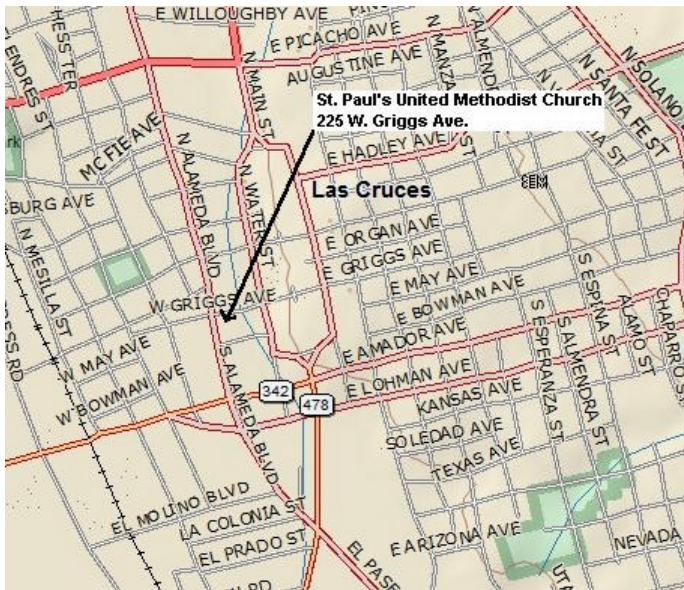
All and all, a great day out on the water. We will definitely be back. It was just a long day making it a one day come-and-go. I will have to find lodging possibilities for my next trip.

I would love it if more members would start filling out fishing reports so we can all stay updated with the fishing on this stretch of the Rio Penasco.

Good luck out there!



**Map showing location for Banquet.**



The parking area for St. Paul's is on the south side and can be entered from N. Alameda Blvd. Entry to the church is through the double doors facing the parking area and closest to Alameda.



".....long hours of cold, interminable work, punctuated with breathless moments of excitement."  
Steve Raymond



**Quick Look Contact Information**

2014 Officers of the Club	
<b>Officers</b>	
• <b>President:</b>	Jim Sorenson (575) 525-1050
• <b>V-Pres.:</b>	Chuck Mueller (575) 647-4045
• <b>Secretary:</b>	John Kennedy (619) 720-3456
• <b>Treasurer:</b>	Gary Mann (575) 521-7793
<b>Board Members</b>	
• <b>Position 1:</b>	Paul Turner (575) 523-6880
• <b>Position 2:</b>	Jim Sorenson (575) 525-1050
• <b>Position 3:</b>	Jeff Arterburn (575) 524-0773
• <b>Position 4:</b>	Ray Rodriquez (575) 524-9420
• <b>Position 5:</b>	Dave Medler, Jr. (575) 434-9313
• <b>Position 6:</b>	Chuck Mueller (575) 647-4045
• <b>Position 7:</b>	Bob Silver (575) 522-6325
• <b>Position 8:</b>	Gary Mann (575) 521-7793
• <b>Position 9:</b>	Dennis Lanpher (575) 642-2946
<b>Newsletter &amp; Web Page Editor</b>	
• Jim Hulsey (575) 524-1880	<a href="mailto:newsletter@mvff.org">newsletter@mvff.org</a>
<b>Membership Committee Chairman</b>	
• Tom Wobbe (575) 522-5437	<a href="mailto:membership@mvff.org">membership@mvff.org</a>

<b>Norm Mabie Scholarship Fund</b>	
Market Value as of 30 June 2014	\$11,487

**Norm Mabie Scholarship Fund**

The Norm Mabie Memorial Scholarship Fund is an endowed fund at New Mexico State University which is funded by MVFF member donations. Earnings from the fund are used to provide scholarships for students at NMSU majoring in fisheries or related fields.

The recipient of each scholarship is determined each April by the MVFF Board with the award being made for the fall semester.

Even though the fund is endowed additions can be made to it at any time. The larger the fund, the more earnings are available for award. If you are interested in contributing please make checks out to the **NMSU Foundation** and on the "for" line of the check, identify "Norm Mabie Memorial Scholarship Fund for deposit only." All contributions are tax deductible. For any questions please contact one of the Officers or Board members. If you have not made a donation to the fund please give consideration and help honor Norm.

**Current Email Addresses Needed**

Many of the email addresses in our files are not current as members change to other internet providers. These addresses will not be distributed, but will only be used to relay club information or reminders for club meetings and other club events. Please send your address changes to [membership@mvff.org](mailto: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  
 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.

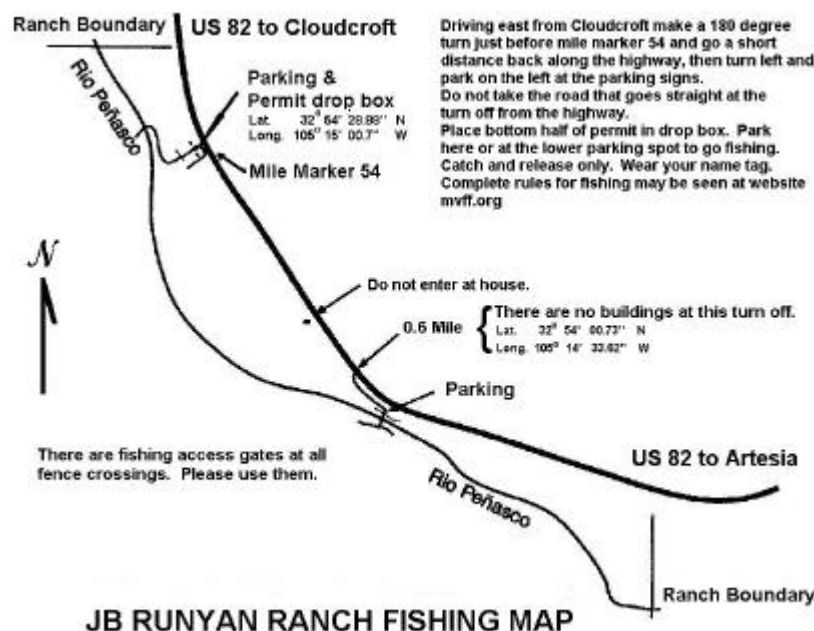
1 Year	\$20	Individual
	\$25	Family
3 Years	\$50	Individual
	\$60	Family
Life	\$400	Individual
	\$500	Family

### 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) 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 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 \_\_\_\_\_?

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.