



TALE WATERS

A Monthly Publication of

Mesilla Valley Flyfishers, Inc.

P.O. Box 2222

Las Cruces, NM 88004-2222

www.MVFF.org

March

2018



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

Membership Meeting

Monday, 12 March

The MVFF general membership meeting will meet on Monday 12 March at 7:00pm in the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. The program will feature certified fly caster Bob Widgren who will present a slide show entitled "Fly Casting: Techniques & Troubles." 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 March

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

Liars and Tyers

Wednesday, 28 March

Liars and Tyers will meet on Wednesday 28 March at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room

starting at 7:00pm. The fly to be tied is the *Doculator*. 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



I am pleased to report that the MVFF club has dipped its collective toes into the waters of online membership services. After months of discussion in our board meetings, we now have a new PayPal account that will allow members

to renew their memberships and pay for fishing permits online. I want to thank board members Tom Johnson, Jim Hulsey, and Bob Silver for their efforts in setting up and testing the new account. It is anticipated that the PayPal account will eventually allow members to directly purchase other items such as tickets to the Fly Fishing Film Tour event and club merchandise. We currently have about 210 paid members, and membership renewals are due this month, so we hope the PayPal system will make it easier for everyone to submit their dues and speed up the process of getting fishing permits to out of town members.

The winds of spring are already here, albeit a month ahead of schedule, so it must be time to start thinking about and preparing for our summer fishing adventures. Over the past several months I've received several requests from the Lady Anglers and other club members to arrange for a casting class taught by a certified casting instructor. In response, we have arranged to have Bob Widgren drive down from Albuquerque, teach a couple of casting classes, and make a presentation at our next meeting of the general membership. On Sunday, March 11, Bob will teach two back-to-back casting classes at the Alumni Pond on the NMSU campus. The first class, scheduled for

9am, will be for the Lady Anglers or any other women in the club who would like to improve their casting without a bunch of guys telling them what to do. At about 10:30 there will be another session for all club members. At our club meeting the following day, Monday, March 12, Bob will present a slide show entitled "Fly Casting: Techniques & Troubles." I hope many of you will be able to attend what should be a very useful couple of days of preparation for time on the water later in the season.

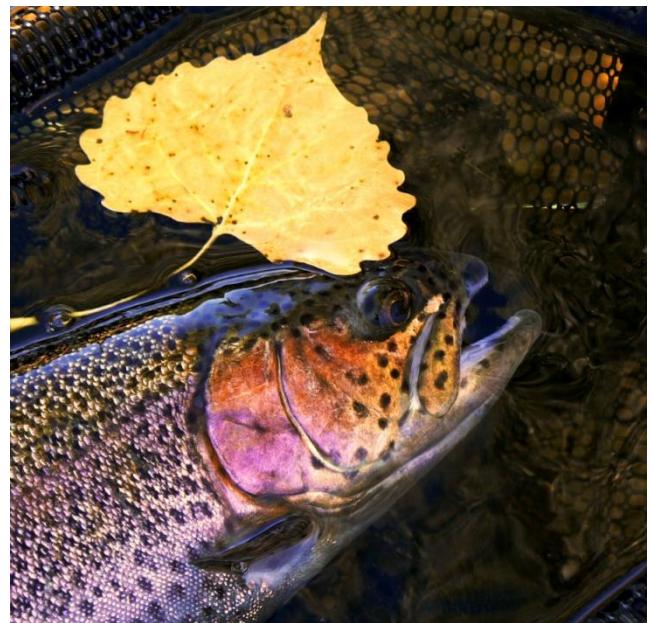


An opinion poll taken last year by the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, and reported in *Outdoor Life* (part of the Field & Stream Network) produced some pretty amazing results regarding anglers' and hunters' attitudes about our public lands. One of the most compelling results of the poll is the finding that 94% of anglers and 64% of hunters depend on public lands for at least part of their activities (Ben Long, *Outdoor Life*, June 29, 2017). The poll respondents weighed in on a number of other issues that are being discussed in government circles, and some of the results may be surprising, especially if one has been listening to claims being made by our elected officials. Ninety-seven percent of the respondents agree that protecting and conserving public lands for future generations is important. Eighty-seven percent do not want to see any cuts in the federal budget that would reduce funding for conservation. Eighty percent support the Clean Water Act protections for headwater streams and wetlands, and 77% of Republicans and 80% of Democrats support keeping the existing number and size of National Monuments that offer hunting and fishing opportunities. In other words, support for conservation of our public lands is very strong all across the political spectrum; the political polarization we often see with regard to other public policy issues does not really occur with public lands, and we should not allow our elected officials to pretend that it does.

Increasingly, sportsmen's groups, conservation groups and other public lands stakeholders are rec-

ognizing that we will need to work together to maintain the quality of, and access to our public lands. In the emails I receive as club president, I am seeing evidence of increased efforts to network among public lands user groups. For example, I regularly receive (and forward to the Board members) contacts from groups such as Trout Unlimited, the New Mexico Wildlife Federation, and the New Mexico Backcountry Hunters & Anglers. I recently received a request for assistance from another worthwhile group which is offering some special opportunities for angling and hunting in northern New Mexico.

The Special Forces Association, Chapter 80, Las Cruces, New Mexico is holding two raffles to raise funds for their programs. The prizes consist of an all-expenses paid elk hunting trip and a separate guided fishing trip for 2 people. Lodging and meals will be provided by the NM Lodge & Ranch at Chama Land & Cattle Company. The raffle tickets cost \$20 each for the elk hunt, and \$10 for the guided fishing trip. A maximum of 600 tickets will be sold for each raffle. To purchase tickets it will be necessary to contact the Association by email, request the number of tickets you want to purchase, and send in your payment. Check out the flyer reproduced on page 6, or you can access their Facebook page for more details.



Rio Peñasco Rainbow

Finally, just a quick reminder that our annual Kids' Fishing Clinic held in conjunction with the NM Department of Game and Fish and the NMSU student chapter of the American Fisheries Society is scheduled

for March 24 at Alumni Pond at NMSU. As in years past, we will need lots of volunteers, so if you can help out and haven't yet signed up for a station, please contact club VP Tom Johnson and make arrangements to assist where needed. The event runs from 9am to 2pm, and volunteers should be there by at least 8:30 to help with setting up the stations. We'll have some fliers at the club meeting on the 12th that members can distribute to friends and neighbors. Hope you can make plans to be there for what is a popular community event. [↑](#)



Ron Bellerose
PHW Coordinator



Project Healing Waters is moving very slowly. With fly tying twice a month and once with the MVFF our attendance is very low. With the loss of Ft Bliss and by not holding fly tying at the Las Cruces VA Clinic recruiting is almost impossible. Most of our PHW participants are Viet Nam era individuals. The new Las Cruces VA Clinic should be opening soon and we will have better access to Vets with disabilities. The building is ready but they seem to have run out of money for the furniture.

We are trying to get a trip together to Silver Creek in Arizona for the end of March. I am looking at taking 3 Vets to Show Low, AZ, for fishing the end of season quality water area. The special waters area closes the last day of March. I am also looking to take a San Juan trip this spring depending on the water conditions along with a couple of trips to the lease and to Grindstone Lake.

I am still looking for a volunteer to act as the alternate program lead for PHW. This would involve setting up some fishing trips, casting and fly tying classes.

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. [↑](#)

Gila/Rio Grande Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

Membership in Trout Unlimited is managed through the national office (<https://www.tu.org/>) with regular annual rates of \$35 that come with a subscription to "Trout" magazine. TU is also running Lifetime Membership deals featuring a Sage X rod (5Wt), Sage 2250 reel and RIO Gold fly line that you may want to consider as a great option for bringing home a sweet new rod! The local GRG-TU Chapter currently has 155 members, although quite a few don't have their email

NMSU American Fisheries Students

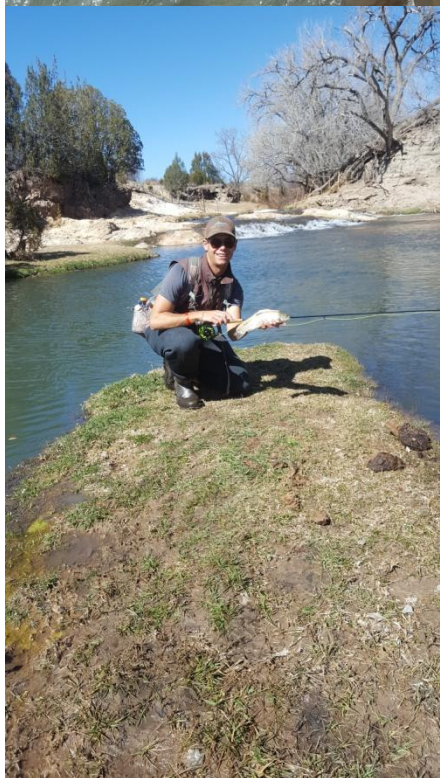
Rio Peñasco

25 February



It went really well, everyone caught a fish or two. Had 8 students go in all. Here are some of the pictures.

Dillen Martinez





Chapter 80 - Las Cruces, NM

Facebook/ Chapter 80 Special Forces Association

Fund Raiser Raffle for sponsored Veterans and Community projects

**Win a 2018 Premium All Expense Elk Hunting or Fishing Trip at the
Renowned NM Lodge & Ranch at Chama Land & Cattle Company**

Ref: www.Lodgeatchama.com

Raffle Tickets - Hunting \$20 each; Fishing \$10 each

Raffle tickets sales limited to 600 each drawing

Drawing Date: Fishing - 1 May 2018 at Chapter Team House, Las Cruces, NM

Hunting – 14 June 2018 at War Eagles Museum, Santa Teresa, NM

Hunting Trip includes: One Cow Elk Hunt, License, 2 nights lodging with meals and complimentary bar (1 person)(travel excluded); need not be present at drawing to win

Fishing Trip includes: One night of lodging with meals and complimentary bar; 1 day of guided fishing with License (2 persons)(travel excluded); need not be present at drawing to win



Send request for raffle tickets to Chapter 80, Special Forces Association, P.O. Box 13684, Las Cruces, NM 88013 or E-mail request to: ch80sfa@gmail.com. Specify Hunting or Fishing.

MVFF Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 19, 2018

Submitted by Jeff Arterburn, Secretary

The MVFF Board meeting was called to order by David Carmichael at 7:01pm 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 and Zach Speir (VP NMSU American Fisheries Society).

1. **Meeting Minutes.** The minutes from the January 15, 2018 Board meeting were approved as published in the February 2018 issue of the newsletter.
2. **Treasurer's Report.** The Treasurer's report and current account balance statement of \$10,758.42 was presented by Chuck Mueller, and accepted by the Board.
3. **Membership Report.** Bob Silver reported 209 active members, with 7 new members joining since last report.
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. Another notice will be placed in the March newsletter. Fly tying sessions are held the 2nd Tuesday of the month from 10am-12pm, and also on the last Wednesday of the month at the Vet Center. A new clinic will be opening soon. Ron is planning another trip to Silver Creek in AZ March 25-28, and may need an additional volunteer to help out.
5. **Gila/Rio Grande Chapter of Trout Unlimited.** Jeff Arterburn informed the board that the GRG-TU Board Members have started meeting regularly on the 3rd Mondays of the month from 5:30-6:30 pm at the Game II, 4131 Northrise Drive, and anyone interested is welcome to attend. Jeff and Brad attended the recent Gila Recovery Team meeting and can share details. The NMDGF progress on Whitewater Creek is promising and if all proceeds as planned the opportunity for restoring Gila Trout should be starting in 2019. Jeff and Jim Brooks will be presenting at the Gila Natural His-

tory Symposium on February 23rd. The symposium is held in the Global Resource Center, Western New Mexico University, and the GRG-TU talk is titled "Converging Interests in Conservation and Angling to Engage Citizen Science Support for Restoration of Native Gila Trout". The Chapter has a pending USFS Citizen Science grant proposal requesting support for continuing work on Willow Creek and expects to hear about funding decisions in early March. Design of an informational sign installation at Willow Creek is underway, and planning for a volunteer work weekend has narrowed down to May 11-13.

6. **NMSU American Fisheries Students.** Dillen reported that 10 students are planning to participate in the fly tying session held starting 9am, Feb 24th, on the NMSU campus in Knox Hall Room 142. The next day, Sunday Feb 25th, the group will make a trip to the lease. Dillen will have a confirmed final list by Wednesday, and will coordinate with volunteers providing transport to the lease. The carpool will plan to leave Las Cruces at 7am from the old Kmart lot of Hwy 70.
7. **Presentations and Events.** Bob Widgren will present specialized casting instruction on Sunday morning March 12th. The specific details need to be finalized, but both the women's angling group and college students have expressed interest in special casting sessions. Bob's presentation at the general meeting on Monday March 13th will address how to recognize and fix casting problems. Ron indicated that he may not be available to pick up the NMDGF conference room key for the meeting and the coffee pot from the storage unit; Jim Hulsey offered to take care of these (if needed).

The April 9th meeting will feature David Carmichael with a presentation on "Why bother keeping a fly fishing journal?" Looking ahead to the May 14th meeting, Tom Johnson suggested a presentation featuring an overview of local areas to fish. Laurence D'Allesandro from NMDGF was suggested as a possible speaker, and will be contacted to see if he is available.

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.

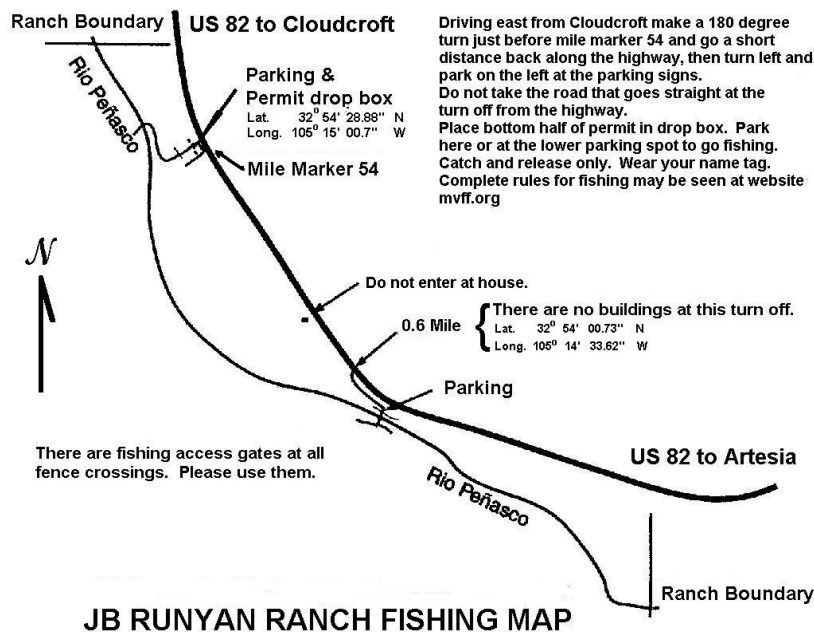
1 Year	\$20	Individual
	\$25	Family
3 Years	\$50	Individual
	\$60	Family
Life	\$400	Individual
	\$500	Family

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.