

Tale Waters

May 2009



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

Website: www.MVFF.org

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Membership Meeting

Monday, 11 May

The monthly membership meeting will be held on 11 May at 7:00 PM at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. The program will feature a presentation on the Green River, UT, the Gunnison River, CO and the Conejos River, CO by George Sanders and Bob Silver. They will also report on the Superfly Competition on the Conejos in which they participated. Coffee and cookies will be served.

Executive Board Meeting

Monday, 18 May

The MVFF Executive Board will meet on Monday 18 May at 7:00 PM at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. All members are welcome to attend.

Liars and Tyers

Monday, 28 May

Liars and Tyers will meet Monday 28 May at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room starting at 7:00 PM. The group will be tying the *Black Widow*. 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 tyers.



President's Corner

Welcome to the May 2009 Edition of *Tale Waters*. The club was very active last month with events including the watershed restoration project on Black Canyon Creek, the Annual MVFF-NMDG&F Kids Fishing Clinic, the ongoing Project Healing Waters program, Liars & Tiers fly tying and an exciting presentation by Taylor Streit. There are still several members who need to renew their MVFF memberships, so please do so, you know who you are! I had the pleasure of fishing in the Conejos Superfly event with my partner in crime Bob Silver, along with team Sanders (George)/Shuster (Brad). We both drew tough beats and gave our tag-team best, but came up short this time. It really didn't matter, we had a great time and enjoyed the whole event, and also used the opportunity to fish the Rio Grande upstream of South Fork, CO. Jon Harp of Conejos River Anglers, <http://www.conejosriveranglers.com/>, has done a fantastic job with this fun competition, and raised significant capital to support ongoing stream improvement projects on this great stream.

You can get ready for the upcoming June trips by attending the May 11th club meeting featuring George Sanders and Bob Silver with a presentation on the Green River, UT the Gunnison River, CO and the Conejos River, CO. These trips are timed with the best intentions of hitting the big fly hatch's, cicada's on the Green, stoneflies on the Gunnison and Conejos, and if the planets are aligned and the bugs show up when the fish are ready, it can be incredible.

The month of May can be a great time to explore many of the streams in Southern New Mexico, while

run-off rages up north. Trips to these streams remind me of the fragility of our trout fishing enterprise, delicate slivers of water hidden in a harsh environment, where drought and rising temperatures, fire and ash flows, or the massive erosion of a localized flood event can all wreak havoc and devastate a fishery. It is made even more apparent to me by the comments of some visitors to our region who are faced with these realities, challenging both the fish and their own expectations that are often based on experiences where the climate, geography and even the rules of engagement are different. Last week I released several stream-born Eastern brook trout and stocked rainbows on the Gallinas, with its trail-worn banks beat by constant bait fishing, and earlier in the month saw hope embodied in the Gila trout darting among shadows of new willow growth. The culture and ethics of fly fishing mandate our efforts towards habitat restoration, which involves working with State & Federal agencies, and private land owners to preserve and enhance these natural resources and to ensure access today and for the future.

I hope to see you streamside.

Jeff



There will be a planning meeting of volunteers at 6:30 PM on the 4th of May 2009 at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. If you are interested come on out and find out what it is all about.

Present plans are to conduct an outing to the Lease on 14 May. The soldiers are really looking forward to it. The military will furnish transportation for them so all we have to do is show up and help them get started fishing. It will be the first time many of them have fished on a stream. We will need as many volunteers as possible for this so as to have as close to a one-on-one instructor-to-student ratio as possible. We plan to meet the El Paso volunteers at the Lease at 9:30am. We will meet at the K-Mart parking lot on north Main at 6:15am for those wanting to carpool from Las Cruces.

Jim Ellett has offered the use of his grill and patio for the cookout at noon. The club is furnishing hamburgers, hotdogs and soft drinks.

If you have any unused fly rods, fly reels, fly lines, etc that you would like to donate to be used with this program or to volunteer to help out, please contact **Randall Vallee** at 575-642-0212 or 575-373-9470, **Ron Bellerose** at 575-541-0807 or **Tom Wobbe** at 575-649-0388 or 575-522-5437.

Black Canyon Creek Restoration

MVFF volunteers assisted the New Mexico Environment Dept. on a habitat restoration project work party at Black Canyon Creek on Saturday and Sunday, 4&5 April. The goal was to plant willows and build structure along portions of the creek above the Gila trout barrier. Sections of the stream here are fairly barren from years of cattle grazing and need improvement to provide more and better habitat for the Gila trout.

In spite of wind Friday night and Saturday and 17° temperature on Sunday morning everything went well and the group had a great time and accomplished a lot. The following letter of thanks was received from Matt Schultz of the New Mexico Environment Department.

Thanks once again for Mesilla Valley Fly Fisher's participation in the Black Canyon Creek volunteer restoration weekend. While I won't be able to attend tonight's meeting, please extend my gratitude to all your members. We planted well over 1,000 willow cuttings along 2,100 feet of Black Canyon Creek, deposited ~15 logs to form pool habitats and stabilize banks, surveyed the original project area in order to record in-stream structure placement and geomorphological changes, and generated 107 volunteer match hours towards the project grant! And it really could not have been done without your support. What's more, a videographer in association with NM Game and Fish captured footage of all the volunteers and interviewed Paul, which will later be broadcast on the New Mexico Wildlife television show. I will send you more information on the airing of the episode later on as I know more. In the meantime, I've attached several photos of your members performing restoration work.

I will keep you posted on all future projects in the Gila area, and look forward to including your group in future events. We have a project in the Gila River Forks area near the Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument Visitor Center that would be great to have your involvement in. The project is currently in the post-design, pre-construction phase. After the heavy equipment construction phase is complete, there will be more opportunities for riparian vegetation planting. I talked to the Project Officer in our office, and it appears that there are a number of permits to acquire before work can begin so it doesn't look like the volunteer restoration work can coincide with your group's summer picnic. I'll keep giving you updates, but hopefully we can arrange a planting party later in the fall (when cutting survivorship will be better anyway).

Kids' Fishing Clinic

MVFF in conjunction with the NM Dept. of Game & Fish held their annual Kids' Fishing Clinic on 11 April at Alumni Pond at NMSU. Even though the weather refused to cooperate the event went well with about 65 kids showing up. There were many volunteers from MVFF, NMSU American Fisheries Society, NMDG&F and NM State Parks. NMDG&F had previously stocked the pond with trout and the kids caught several of them. Photos of the event are included later in this newsletter.

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, chairman of the "Outings" committee.

- June 8-13 - club trip to the Green River below Flaming Gorge, UT
- June 15-21 - club trip to the Gunnison River, CO.
- June 26-29 - club trip to the Conejos River in southern Colorado.
- July - a club fishing trip and picnic in the Gila is being considered.
- Sept. 30 - Oct. 3 - MVFF Lady Anglers are planning a trip to the Pecos River near Santa Fe.
- October - the Club's annual trip to the San Juan.

Welcome New Members

Mack Bell	Santa Teresa, NM
Andrew & Vicki Buechter	Alto, NM
Michael Casas	El Paso, TX
Victor Casas	El Paso, TX
Francis Curtis	El Paso, TX
Pete Eddings	El Paso, TX
Donetto & Nicole Heckathorn	Las Cruces, NM
Scott McDonald	Germantown, TN
Robert & Gale Sanchez	El Paso, TX
Steel Shaw	El Paso, TX
William Wallin	Las Cruces, NM
Ruben Waters	El Paso, TX

Black Canyon Creek



Kids' Fishing Clinic



MVFF Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 20, 2009

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

In attendance were Board members: Paul Turner, George Thomas, Gary Mann, Tom Wobbe, and Bob Silver; and guest members: Ron Bellerose and Jim Hulsey.

1. Minutes of the March Board meeting were approved as published in the April newsletter.
2. The Treasurer's report presented by Gary Mann was approved. The report shows the Club has a balance of \$12,366.00.
3. The Membership report was presented by Tom Wobbe, indicating that 108 members had not yet renewed.
4. The Bylaws & Organization committee are currently evaluating the wording of the lease agreement with regards to the hold harmless statement, and opportunities for obtaining liability insurance for club-sponsored events.
5. The May 11th meeting will feature a presentation by George Sanders and Bob Silver that will provide an overview of the planned club fishing trips in June. Planning is underway for a picnic in the Gila during July.
6. Gary Mann reported on the status of the scholarship fund, and indicated that applications

were being forwarded for consideration by the awards committee.

7. Possible arrangements for maintenance of the portable facilities at the Runyon Lease were discussed, more information will be collected and options discussed with Jim Ellett.
8. An organizational meeting for the Project Healing Waters committee was set for April 30th at the NMG&F, to discuss plans for the upcoming group trip to the Rio Peñasco May 14th. Efforts to obtain special licensing considerations for participating service members were discussed, and are the subject of ongoing communications.
9. The MVFF has been asked to participate in two different kids fishing clinics as part of the NM Free Fishing Day on Saturday, June 6. The Lake Roberts event is being organized by Tawnya Brummett, and will be attended by Jeff Arterburn, Ron Bellerose, Bob Silver, Tom Wobbe and possibly Jim Hulsey. The Las Cruces event at NMSU Alumni Pond will involve Sam Lathem, Dave Medler, Dick Newton, George Thomas and Kay and Paul Turner. Additional participants for both events will be recruited at the May General Club Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

More Black Canyon Creek



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) 532-5614
• 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	\$10,000
Operating Account	1,003
Total	\$11,003

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.

Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout Print

Help support the MVFF Habitat Restoration Projects and purchase a limited edition "Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout" print. This beautiful printing of an original watercolor of our native state fish is a limited series of 150 high quality 12 x 18 prints that are numbered and signed by New Mexico artist Michelle Arterburn. The cost of each individual print is \$25.00, with the proceeds dedicated towards habitat restoration projects. See the MVFF website for purchase.



***** REMEMBER *****
**MVFF MEMBERSHIPS & NM FISHING
 LICENSES EXPIRED 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.

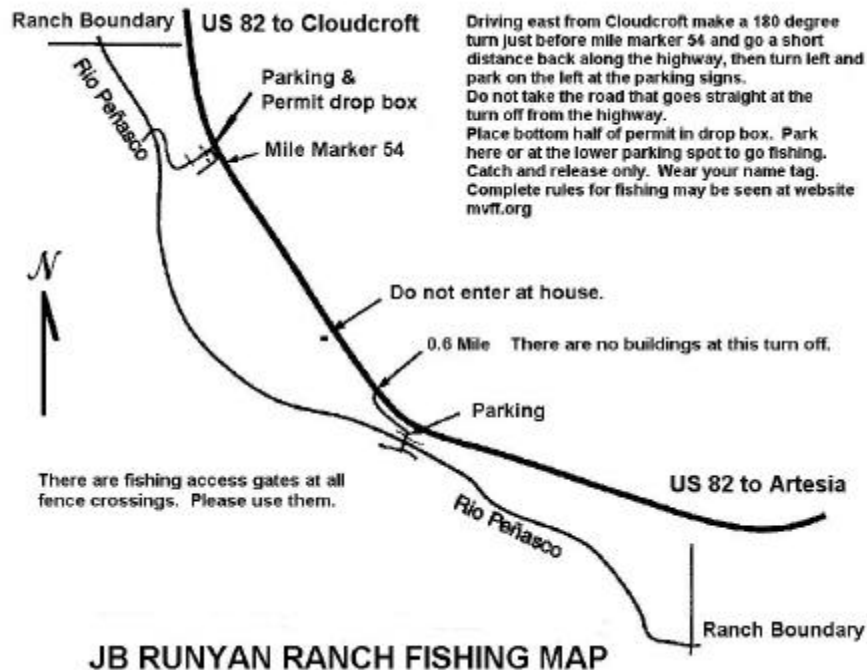
1 Year	\$20	Individual
	\$25	Family
3 Years	\$50	Individual
	\$60	Family
Life	\$400	Individual
	\$500	Family

Lease Information

Permits to fish the Club leased waters on the Rio Peñasco can be obtained from 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.