

# OPTU NEWS

## Old Pueblo Trout Unlimited

Trout Unlimited Chapter 531 [www.optu.org](http://www.optu.org) Editor: John E. Murphy 520-250-4083

Volume 20, Issue 3



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#### Items that Change

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- Dry Creek Outfitters News - **Dry Creek is moving in March - keep in touch for details.**

#### Items that Don't Change Much

- Movie Links
- Help on Places to Fish
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#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Banquet Chair:** Jay Elliott

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El Jefe



### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Fellow Anglers;

Our banquet was fun as usual. We made money to put toward our projects and speakers. For those who missed the OPTU banquet you might want to visit the Payson Banquet in April. You can find the location on the website.

Now on to the rest of the year.

Jack Dennis will be joining us at our next chapter meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 6:30, at the Viscount Inn. We will have speakers through June and then take a vacation in July and August.

Check out the the fishing schedule for Joe Vitelli's outings - they look like a lot of fun and are certain to have great opportunity for camaraderie.

Take note that we have updated the website with event schedules.

Don't forget to contact Robin Marsett for tickets to win an all electric Nissan Leaf. Only \$25 each. (520-661-4079, [rmarsett@comcast.net](mailto:rmarsett@comcast.net))

All the best

*Mike Mehrer, OPTU President.*

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE NEWSLETTER**

We would like to determine if anyone would be interested in serving as section editors for the newsletter. For example, our section on angling tips could be invigorated by someone willing to scan fishing magazines and other sites for a tip or two each month. The funny among you might be willing to host the quotes and jokes section to spice it up. Finally, we can use someone to solicit fishing stories as well, since VERY few are submitted despite my clear understanding that many of you routinely go on trips. I guess that means you don't want to share secrets. If you want the newsletter to be interesting, then we need postings that members want to read. Finally, if you have an idea for a section that you think might be of interest please email your trusty editor. He might try it out even if you won't volunteer to lead the charge. *The Editor*

## CONSERVATION NEWS

OPTU Conservation News

January 13, 2012

By Roseann Marsett

### Women's Workgroup Initiative

National TU as part of their outreach is encouraging women to participate in fly fishing. The Women's Workgroup Initiative was created to facilitate this. While the Initiative is still in its infancy we are starting to make inroads in to ways to grow participation. TU is working on a new website which will have group blogs as part of the overall renovation. The Women's Workgroup will be creating blogs at the Chapter and State levels. These blogs will function much like Facebook friends and events. In this way unique women only issues can be addressed, special events publicized and questions answered. If you are interested in participating or helping please contact Roseann Marsett at 520.237.4172.



## YOUTH ACTIVITY REPORT

Here's the link to youth oriented activities done by other chapters of OPTU. We ought to be able to do some of them similarly. Thanks in advance for taking the time to look over the information in the link. Let me know if there are any that are appealing to you to work with me to get started in our chapter. I'd like the women in OPTU to begin sharing with Girl Scouts. I would assist in making this happen. <http://www.tu.org/sites/www.tu.org/files/documents/tacklebox/youth/One-TU%20Youth%20Report%202011-08-23.pdf>

We don't have to travel far from Tucson to do good for the trout habitat - indirectly. Sincerely, *Joe Fagan*.

## PROJECT HEALING WATERS FLYFISHING



See fishing reports and board minutes for news about the many activities of PHWF.

## Upcoming Fishing Trips

### MARCH FISHING OUTINGS

MARCH 1 - 4, 2012    WHITE MOUNTAINS  
MARCH 22, 2012    ROSE CANYON LAKE

On March 1 through 4, 2012, OPTU members will be joining our own Robin Marsett and members of PHWFF for a four day trip to the White Mountains for some cold weather fishing. It will be an honor to spend a few days with our wounded warriors in honor of the sacrifices they have made for us all. Silver Creek and Becker Lake (if not frozen) are just a few of the spots we are planning to fish.

I always look forward to spending time with PHWFF and those wounded veterans, and I am amazed at how their skill levels have improved thanks to Robin and his group of volunteers. OPTU members wishing to participate should email Robin Marsett at rmarsett@comcast.net, or myself by telephone at 520-885-8357. We will need to have an accurate head count by February 24, 2012.

On March 22, 2012 we will be making our monthly trek to Rose Canyon Lake, while the main road is still closed and the fish are still plentiful. We will meet at the parking lot must past mile marker 17 on Catalina Highway, next to the gated road into Rose Canyon. Meeting time is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. Again, a reminder that the hike is a mile in and out, on a paved road. Hope to see you there!

*Joe Vitelli*  
*OPTU Outings Coordinator*

Don't forget there is fun fishing in southern Arizona's lakes. It's always a fun day of fishing with fellow OPTU members locally.

### Tips and Tricks

The editor doesn't have any new ones to share and none were submitted.

## FISHING REPORTS

### OUTINGS REPORT

by Joseph Vitelli, Outings Coordinator

### PARKER CANYON AND ROSE CANYON FISHING REPORT

On January 28th, members of OPTU and PHWFF met at Parker Canyon Lake for a great day of fishing. Mike Mehrer brought the OPTU flat bottom boat out of dry dock. Joe Fagan and his good friend Paul were not to be outdone and rose to the challenge by fishing from their canoe.

### Calendar

**Mar 7:** Regular meeting - Author, guide and outfitter Jack Dennis will be demonstrating fly tying at the new location for Dry Creek, and then speaking to OPTU in the evening - Viscount 6:30 pm

**Mar 21:** Lie and Tie (6:30 pm); Dry Creek Outfitters, NEW LOCATION. Call Eric at 326-7847.

**Mar 28:** Board meeting at TBA - 6 pm.

**Apr 4:** Regular meeting - TBA - Viscount 6:30 pm

**Apr 18:** Lie and Tie (6:30 pm); Dry Creek Outfitters, NEW LOCATION. Call Eric at 326-7847.

**Apr 25:** Board meeting at TBA - 6 pm.



As usual, Robin Marsett was busy networking with the mercantile/marina store on behalf of the PHWFF members arranging boats for members and their families. We all had a wonderful day....PHWFF member Chris Allen had his entire family casting fly rods like pros.

Aside from fishing, Mike Mehrer and I were called to duty and assisted an injured hiker by giving her a boat ride back to her camp. She experienced an ankle injury and could not make the mile walk back to her campsite.



On February 9<sup>th</sup>, members gathered once again for a day of fishing at Rose Canyon Lake on Mount Lemmon. Although a bit chilly, the weather was beautiful and sunny, perfect for some serious fly fishing. While there were a few trout rising to the surface, most of the action was below. Thus, most of the day was spent fly fishing with beaded nymphs (pheasant tail, hares ear and prince), which was extremely successful. Rainbows were the take of the day by a margin of 3 to 1. The trout caught were small to moderate size, 8 to 10 inches, but they were full of fight and energy. Approximately forty fish were brought to hand with as many misses along the way. All agreed it was another good fishing day....then again, aren't they all? Hope to see you out fishing next month.

## QUOTES AND JOKES

### FOR SALE

Everyone is keeping their stuff.

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## OPTU BOARD MINUTES

### BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING

Mike Mehrer, President	Roseann Marsett, conservation
Dave Combs, Banquet co-chair	Roger McKee, Pres (ex officio)
Jay Elliot, Banquet co-chair	Nan Phillips, membership
Mick Fletcher, Public Relations (AZTU vice-chair)	Steve Reiter, Mtgs. coordinator
Scott Koktavy, meeting host	Joseph Vitelli, Outings
Robin Marsett, PHWFF	Kathleen Vitelli, Secretary

Meeting was held at SK Builders and was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mike announced that Arizona Trout Unlimited was searching for someone to fill the position of secretary/treasurer should anyone be interested.

### BANQUET

Dave reported that of the \$2,000 he had to spend on the auctions items, he had just under \$1,400 yet to spend and asked board members for suggestions.

Thus far he had acquired a number of auction items including several restaurant gift certificates, several 2-day getaways including Big Horn River and Antler Ridge in Greer. Dave indicated that Cabela's will be making a donation. Several items have been donated from the Marsett's, a round of golf for four at La Paloma has been donated, and clothing from Jay. The Vitelli's will donate a wine and goodies basket.

The board discussed having shirts made with the OPTU logo and present them for sale at the banquet. Dave and Mike discussed their contacts to get this done. Jay confirmed that he has arranged for Weaver to conduct the auctions, and he also acquired a screen to be used for the slide presentations. The auction and bucket raffles will be located near the bar. Jay confirmed that in order to be cost effective, the dinner menu will be limited to chicken only.

### YOUTH ACTIVITIES

No report as Joe Fagan was absent from meeting due to another commitment. Roseann indicated that she would be volunteering with the Girl Scouts and perhaps we could extend our fly tying to the girls as well. Mike suggested Roseann speak with Joe Fagan.

### CONSERVATION REPORT

Roseann indicated that Trout Unlimited's clean-up day is scheduled for 4/21/12, but that would conflict with a PHWFF event. As an alternative, Roseann suggested this chapter conduct a clean-up/fishing day at Fry Mesa on 4/14/12.

Roseann had spoken to Clay Hernandez about this. He also indicated that there would be a volunteer cleanup of the Black River (White Mountains) in June. The Marsetts would be unavailable due to their Alaska trip.

Robin reported on a recent trip to Fry Mesa, there was some trash. Also, pallets are burned and the nails are left behind. There was also a request by Clay to check for NO FISHING signs up above the mesa and if needed, he will supply signs for posting.

## OUTINGS REPORT

Joe V. reported that members participated in an outing at Sahaurita Lake earlier in January and a trip to Parker Canyon was scheduled for January 28th.

Joe indicated that he and Robin did a recon trip to Fry Mesa and that the Gila trout fishing was very active. Additionally, Rose Canyon Lake on Mount Lemmon has also been very active.

Joe reported that February outings would include a fishing trip to Rose Canyon on February 9th and Frye Mesa Reservoir on February 24th.

Robin added that FFF does issue a badge if you catch four species of trout, but the Gila trout was not included in this group. It was discussed that perhaps our chapter can offer something similar.

## CHAPTER MEETINGS REPORT

Steve reminded members that the February member meeting presentation would be done by Ed Lawrence on fishing in Montana; the March meeting presentation would be done by Jack Dennis, who would do a fly tying segment and then two 45 minute presentations; and the April presentation would be done by Jerome Gallegos.

With respect to Jack's presentation, Eric of Dry Creek Outfitters offered to pick up half the cost if Jack would do the fly tying portion at his shop.

Steve reported that no speakers have been scheduled for the May and June meetings. Perhaps we could consider a presentation on Gila trout or fishing in other regions/states contiguous to Arizona. Robin indicated that he would talk to Jerome about doing a presentation on fishing the upper rivers in Colorado.

A discussion then took place with respect to suspending regular member meetings in July and August due to anticipated low attendance.

A suggestion to see if Dave Brown from British Columbia would be available for the May meeting before he leaves Tucson. In addition, fall topics could include a revisit by AZ Game/Fish with update on rehab from Wallow fire destruction.

## PHWFF

Robin reported that weekly fly tying classes continue and that competition rod building has begun. PHWFF will participate jointly with OPTU in the Frye Mesa and Parker Canyon upcoming trips. There will also be a joint PHWFF/OPTU four day trip to the White Mountains from March 1-4, 2012, and a San Juan River trip on April 21st.

The September Durango, Colorado trip is on schedule. Additionally, Robin has three individuals going on a guided trip to Alaska, each of them will sponsor a wounded veteran on that trip. Healing Waters in Anchorage told Robin that since there is no fishing in winter, they will send two of their veterans on the San Juan trip and will offer exchange fishing in Anchorage for two PHWFF members.

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Robin is working on getting an MOA signed by Desert Flycasters. With respect to participants from Davis-Monthan, Robin said that he has one participant from D-M.

## WOMEN'S INITIATIVES

Nan indicated that she is planning to organize a second women's fly casting event in April or May. She would like to do a follow-up fishing for attendees at Canyon Creek shortly after the clinic so attendees can put what they learned to practical use.

Roseann reported that the National TU website is reorganizing and will give equal focus to fishing as well as conservation. This reorganization will also bring women in TU into focus and suggest have every state develop a women's initiative with subgroups based on regional TU chapters. Each regional chapter website would have sub groups such as women's initiatives, PHWFF, etc. There will also be fishing reports available throughout the country which can be accessed on website by entering a pertinent zip code. TU will finalize the new version by October 2012.

The new website will be blog focused and a beta version, or read-only version. As a regional group, Roseann would set up the web page and be the administrator. Roseann will keep the board updated.

A discussion then was presented by Kathleen regarding the inactivity of our OPTU facebook page and the upcoming changes coming to facebook which would archive non-active facebook group pages. Suggestions were made to discuss this with our facebook administrator Mark DeVries. Roseann suggested we should have more than one administrator on not only Facebook but the new TU blog pages. She suggested being an administrator along with Kathleen and Nan.

## NO OLD BUSINESS

## NEW BUSINESS

Mick discussed the AZ legislatures' handing out of game permits to politicians who then hand out as they see fit. Item was tabled on state level for further discussion. He reminded members that they can access information from the Arizona Council at [www.AZTU.org](http://www.AZTU.org). He also asked members where the AZ license plate postcards were placed so the council can follow-up and refill them periodically. Mick indicated that the AZTU council holds a conference in March/April on native trout up at Game and Fish in Phoenix.

Discussion was held regarding sending out reminder postcards next year about the banquet and it was agreed to do that next year along with two blast email reminders.

Discussion regarding acquiring OPTU letterhead with updated member information and taking the time to send our monthly speakers a thank you letter.

Mike indicated he would be on vacation from February 25 through March 17, 2012. The next Board meeting would be on February 22, 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Vitelli, Board Secretary



**DRY CREEK OUTFITTERS: NEWS AND BARGAINS**

We will be moving some time in March to the shopping center on the NE corner of River and Craycroft. This move will allow many exciting new opportunities for the Dry Creek group and all of our wonderful friends and customers. More information to follow. Thanks for your support through the years. It is sincerely appreciated. Call Eric or Whitey at 326-7847 for information or drop by and see the new products. Best regards, *Eric Loeffler*

**FOR RENT**

4 BR house in Heber City, UT. 15 miles from Park City and a mile from the Provo River; 2.5 hrs to the Green. \$500 per week or \$90/night - plus housecleaning fee. Call John at 520-250-4083 if interested in checking it out.

Wyndham Resort Timeshare - Anywhere in US - One week in 1 to 4 bedroom suite - \$600/week depending on availability. Call John at 520-250-4083.

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With your \$25 Contribution (or 5 tickets for \$100) you could win a 2012 Nissan LEAF SL. And the best part is that 100% of your contribution will support Tucson charities - which keep all the proceeds from the maximum 40,000 tickets which will be sold. The drawing will be held April 27, 2012. Entries must be received by April 20, 2012.

For campaign and ticket information, contact The Raffle Management Team at: 520.342.5210 or at: NewLeaf@RussellPublic.com

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO

Project Healing Waters of Southern Arizona

AND

Old Pueblo Trout Unlimited

CONTACT ROBIN MARSETT, PH. 760-1667 OR CELL 661-4079 OR ERIC OR WHITEY AT DRY CREEK



Help send a Wounded Warrior to the Kobuk River in the North West Arctic of Alaska



Those who have borne the battle



Much needed chance to decompress

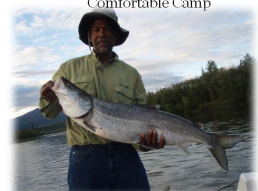
Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Fort Huachuca is raising money to send four wounded warriors to the Kobuk River for some world class fishing and much needed relaxation. You can help with a donation or by purchasing a raffle ticket for a chance of winning a new Nissan LEAF. Please Contact: Libby Mannel at (520) 881-0000 libby@arrottalaw.com Or Robin Marsett at (520) 760-1667 rmarsett@comcast.net



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## MOVIE LINKS

**Please** send links to movies you have seen on YouTube or other places. I'll check it out and post. Here are a few:

"Catfishing" <http://www.fieldandstream.com/blogs/flytalk/2011/07/fly-fishing-cats-and-other-odities#comment-722714>

Catching a nice Gila trout

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bXEZVJmD3Yo>

This is a classic TU film called The Way of a Trout.

<http://www.lrcctu.org/movies/TheWayofaTrout/>

Trout in the Classroom Video <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QWlnuFkCPFg>

Alaska 2011 "Murphy Trip" Trailer <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qH3Hs3tZp40> See what you can do with iMovie trailers - pretty fun.

This URL refers to the 1<sup>st</sup> book written on fly-fishing by a Benedictine nun and published in 1496. It shows a block print with the first Tenkara-style fly-fishing - recorded in Europe (not Japan). No fly reels back then. <http://www.headwatersofhistory.com/2012/01/interviews-with-anglers-past-dame-juliana.html>

## HELP ON PLACES TO FISH

Names and email addresses of OPTU members who have kindly agreed to share their fishing waters' knowledge with members who have not fished the particular waters before and are looking for advice is now available for downloading on the new OPTU website at:

<http://optu.org/FISHING%20WATERS%20HELP.doc>. A good first lead about where and when to fish, or where to stay can make the trip easier and more enjoyable. The list is alphabetical by state and several foreign locations are also included. For advice about one of the areas or rivers on the list, get in touch with the named colleague by email and make arrangements to talk to them by phone.

Additionally, courtesy of OPTU flyfisher Don Maggert, there is a disc containing articles pulled from the Web about fly fishing some thirty well-regarded Western rivers (mostly in Colorado and Montana as well as a few from Idaho and Utah). Send me a name of the river and I will check to see if it is on Don's disc and if so, I will forward the write-up. *Stan Vanagunas* [vanagunas@msn.com](mailto:vanagunas@msn.com)

## OPTU FACEBOOK GROUP

If you add the OPTU group to your links in Facebook it will help make contacts with members. *Joe DeVries* [jrdaz@cox.net](mailto:jrdaz@cox.net)

## EDDIES NEWSLETTER

In case you would like to receive "Eddies: Reflections on Fisheries Conservation," click on the link and sign up for paper or email delivery. <http://www.fws.gov/fisheries/eddies/Subscribe/Subs.cfm>