

OPTU NEWS

Old Pueblo Trout Unlimited

Volume 21, Issue 3

Trout Unlimited Chapter 531 www.optu.org Editor: John E. Murphy 520-250-4083



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Anglers:

Attendance at the February meeting was very good, 45-50 folks by my rough count. It's no secret that many people come to the meetings primarily to hear the speaker and his/her presentation. Our speaker in February was Emmett Doane from Circle Valley Anglers in Circleville, UT, and his very informative and entertaining presentation was on "Fly Fishing Southern Utah". In all my years attending OPTU meetings, I have never heard a presentation on Southern Utah so this was especially interesting to me.

Finding and booking a new speaker each month is no easy task. Sometimes I hear about an individual or a topic from another member; such was the case with Mr. Doane (big thanks to Whitey Kuebler). Sometimes an individual contacts me and wants to present a program about his service or business; such was the case with the presentation on Cimarroncita Ranch in New Mexico (thanks to Pete Nicastro). And sometimes I get lucky and read about someone, either in a magazine or on the internet, contact that individual, and seldom have been turned down for a presentation at one of our meetings. Such was the case with Ben Smith of AZ Wanderings who gave a great talk about fishing urban lakes in Phoenix.

For our March and April meetings I must thank Rick Weisberg of San Pedro Fly Casters. For March we have a SPFC member, Ray Ganey, to give a presentation on the Kisaralik River in Alaska. If your travel plans for 2013 don't include Alaska (I know mine don't!) you can visit there vicariously at the March meeting. I promise there will be no mosquitos, brown bears, rain or expensive lodgings.

For April we have Jack Houck of Orvis/Scottsdale, who will give a presentation on fishing the Mogollon Rim lakes (Chevelon, Woods Canyon, etc.) above Payson.

I don't have a speaker for May yet. As always, I will be happy to follow up on any suggestion I receive. If you know of, or hear about, someone who could give a presentation to our group please send me the information. My contact information can be found in the newsletter or on our web page.

From the Executive Suite,
Steve Reiter, OPTU President



WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES

2013 OPTU Women's Fly Casting Clinic: April 6th – 7th, 2013

Please join us for another great clinic taught by Marian Tallon and Donna Walkuski, both FFF Certified Casting Instructors from Phoenix. Because so many of us have attended Marian and Donna's Basic and Advanced Classes in the past we have decided to do something slightly different this year and focus on specific casting skills.

	8:00–12:00	12:00–1:00	1:00–4:00
Saturday	Advancing The Cast You Have	Lunch	Building Skills Step-By-Step
Sunday	Open Session		

8:00 -12:00 Saturday – April 6th

Advancing The Cast You Have.

This workshop is for participants of all skill levels, beginner to advanced. We begin with fun exercises designed to help the caster feel the rod, see their loop, cast efficiently & understand why efficiency matters. Casters become their own teachers as they learn to recognize good loops, improve their cast, add new skills & learn how to practice.

1:00 - 4:00 Saturday – April 6th

Building Skills Step-By-Step

The session is designed for women with fly fishing experience, who've encountered on the water challenges. It's a how-to workshop that addresses getting your fly to the fish when the wind is howling, there's a tree in the way, the fish are 60 feet out, the current is racing. "Advancing the cast you have" is a prerequisite for this workshop.

8:00 -12:00 Sunday – April 7th

Open Session

This is a combination workshop. It includes open casting and discussion of practical fishing techniques. Casting will be tailored to each individual. Group discussion & hands-on skills workshops will focus on helping you feel more confident & self-sufficient on the water.

The fee for the 2013 Clinic will be \$75 and will be all inclusive. You can attend the Saturday am only session or combine that session with both or one of the additional Workshops. Workshop will again be at Lakeside Park – Ramada #6.

Please contact Roseann Marsett at rzann@comcast.net or 520.760.1659 for further information or to reserve your place. Attendance is limited. Workshop attendees will be given pertinent information and a short survey to prepare in advance of the class. The survey will assist Marian and Donna in planning the workshop to focus on specific interests.

CONSERVATION NEWS

OPTU CONSERVATION EVENT - APRIL 13th, 2013

We have our next trip planned for April 12-13th 2013 at Frye Mesa Reservoir. We will arrive at the bunkhouses at Cluff Ranch on the evening of April 12th. We will spend the night there and after a hearty

breakfast the next morning we will travel to the reservoir to conduct a clean-up. Lunch will be provided and we hope to get in some fishing for Gila Trout in the afternoon.

Arizona Game and Fish has requested that we provide them with data on all fish we catch and release. They will provide the appropriate data sheets. We plan to leave for home on Saturday evening. Anyone who wishes to stay at the ranch Saturday night is welcome to do that on their own.

Any questions please contact Roseann at rzann@comcast.net or Robin at rmarsett@comcast.net. Please let us know if you intend to join us so we can have a count for the meals and we'll provide a map and other information to you.

Robin and Roseann Marsett

rzann@comcast.net or rmarsett@comcast.net

YOUTH ACTIVITY REPORT

by Joe Fagan

Trout in the Classroom (TIC) is functioning smoothly. There are about 20 fry remaining from the 103 Rainbow Trout eggs that Desert Sky Community School had at the start of caring for the fish. The loss of about 80% of the fish is normal under the conditions in which they are living. Far fewer survive in the wild. The trout fry are one and a half inches to 2 inches long. The trout are living in a 55-gallon, chilled aquarium.

Ms. Bayla Canote and her students have had no difficulties with water quality or mechanical equipment. Her TIC Program is functioning as intended. After initial start-up with myself and other OPTU volunteers assisting setting up refrigeration, filtration, and biological systems, no additional assistance has been needed by the Ms. Canote and students at her school.

For our Educational Outreach, only one OPTU member (Sue Simpson) has volunteered to help with Apache high school students learn to fish on February 27 and 28. You were invited to stay at Cluff Ranch Bunk House for a couple nights to assist Classroom Instruction at the Mt. Turnbull Academy in Bylas, and with Field Instruction at Cluff Ranch Pond. Sue and I will go fly-fishing for Gila Trout up at Frye Mesa Reservoir after class on Wednesday (the 27th) afternoon and also do a little fishing at Cluff Ranch Pond.

Similarly, for the Fly Tying and Fishing classes in April with the same Apache students only Robin Marsett has volunteered with the possibility of another OPTU member assisting. I could definitely use 3 or 4 more volunteers to help teach fly tying and casting. Those dates are in April; Tuesday the 2nd arrive at Cluff Ranch, Wednesday the 3rd teach fly tying, and Thursday the 4th teach fly fishing/casting.

The week we are scheduled to teach the requirements for the Boy Scout Fly Fishing Merit Badge will be for Scouts camping at Camp Lawton in the Catalina Mountains during July 8 – 12. We have five of us OPTU members certified as Merit Badge Counselors in the Catalina Council. I hope that all 5 of us will be available to teach at least some of the days during the week. We may prepare our own schedule and subjects to be taught prior to the camp. We will not have to camp with the Scouts, merely drive up and down each day we will instruct.

If you are a fly-angler and tie your own fishing flies, you may easily become certified by the Catalina Council. There is some paper-work to be filled out and an on-line course related to youth safety to take (lasts about 22 minutes). Feel free to ask me for advice if you are interested in this or any of the other Youth Activities in which OPTU is involved.

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>

PROJECT HEALING WATERS FLY FISHING

Project Healing Waters continues to tie flies every Wednesday at Dry Creek Outfitters and every other week at the VA hospital. It is time for the annual PHWFF rod building contest and we have three contestants this year hoping to win a fly fishing trip to some exotic location. We have been going on our monthly day trips with OPTU to Rose Canyon, Grant Creek, and Fry Mesa. We will be joining OPTU for the trip to the White Mountains from 22 to 25 March. If you know a qualified veteran or active service member (qualified means a service connected disability) have them get in touch with us. There is always room in our group.

Contact for Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing is: Robin Marsett rmarsett@comcast.net

Upcoming Fishing Trips and Outings Reports

FISH ALASKA THIS JUNE

Ever wanted to fish in Alaska? If so, consider joining my annual trip there next June. OPTU members and friends are most welcome. Fishing will be for King Salmon from boat, beach at the lodge, or in small rivers; Sockeye Salmon (one of the best fighting fish on a fly rod); halibut; grayling; rainbows; and dolly varden. After a day of guided fishing you can fish till midnight from the beach if you have the stamina. Cullen caught a 70 lb King off the beach. A weeklong Lodge package from June 15 to 21, 2013 is \$3995 plus \$150 for a plane shuttle from the Kenai airport to Anchorage at the end of the stay (total of \$4145). Includes all room, board, happy hour, and daily guided activities. Note that I do not receive any portion of the payment - so its just an opportunity for getting together in Alaska with friends. Contact me at 250-4083 if interested. *John Murphy*

DRY CREEK OUTFITTERS: NEWS AND BARGAINS

Call us if you need something. If you're unable to make it to the shop before your next trip, we are happy to drop a few bugs and/or leaders (or whatever) in the mail - shipping is free.

Things to consider this month:

- We have a good supply of Ross Reels and Textured Series Scientific Anglers fly lines - come check them out
- A recent arrival are the new System 4 fly reels, machined in Colorado, from Scientific Anglers
- Also, come see and test drive the new Helios 2 fly rod from Orvis - its pretty spectacular and something everyone needs for the New Year.

Dry Creek resides at the River Center mall; NE corner of River and Craycroft and is open **Tuesdays through Saturdays** from 10 am to 7 pm Tuesday to Friday and 9:30 am to 6 pm on Saturday. Address: 5655 East River Road, Suite 131, Tucson, AZ 85750 and phone (520) 326-7847. East side of the River Center between a beauty shop and Japanese restaurant.

Eric is a long-time supporter of OPTU and we all need to be sure to support him. So get over to DCO and buy some of those essential things you know you need. *The Editor*

Tips and Tricks

Store Shoe Goo and wader repair glues in the freezer. They will last a long time compared to regular storage and thaw out in just a few minutes.

The right way to hold fish for pictures:

<http://www.deneki.com/2012/05/taking-pictures-of-fish-the-right-way/>

FISHING REPORTS

None submitted and I didn't go anywhere so nothing to talk about. I am writing this report while in Saudi Arabia, but that's another story.
The editor.

Arizona Game and Fish Interactive Stocking Schedule

http://www.azgfd.gov/pdfs/h_f/fishing/stocking/2012SumTroutStockSchedule.pdf

QUOTES AND JOKES

Nothing funny this month.

FOR SALE

Everyone's keeping their stuff.

OPTU BOARD MINUTES

OPTU BOARD MEETING MINUTES - FEB. 6, 2013

Attendees:

Steve Reiter, President

Vaughn Johnson, V. President

Joe Fagan, Youth/TIC

Robin Marsett, PHWFF

Roseann Marsett, Conservation/Women

Joe Vitelli, Outings

Kathleen Vitelli, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m. and was held at the Hilton Hotel.

UPDATE REPORTS - VARIOUS ISSUES

Roseann will meet with website developer on February 14th to work up an estimate on updating the OPTU website.

Calendar

Mar 6: Regular meeting at the Viscount - 6:30 pm - 4855 East Broadway, Tucson, AZ, 85711. Speaker Ray Gainey from Sierra Vista who will speak about float trips in Alaska.

Mar 20: Lie and Tie (6:30 pm); Dry Creek Outfitters, 5655 East River Road, Suite 131. Call Eric at 326-7847.

Mar 27: BOARD MEETING

Apr 3: Regular meeting at the Viscount - 6:30 pm - 4855 East Broadway, Tucson, AZ, 85711. Speaker Jack Houck of Orvis/Scottsdale, who will give a presentation on fishing the Mogollon Rim lakes (Chevelon, Woods Canyon, etc.) above Payson.

Apr 17: Lie and Tie (6:30 pm); Dry Creek Outfitters, 5655 East River Road, Suite 131. Call Eric at 326-7847.

Apr 24: BOARD MEETING

Steve gave an update on sending out postcards to OPTU members as reminders of meetings and OPTU upcoming events. Various prices were discussed including printing them out vs. using kinkos printing. The approximate cost including postage would run about \$200 per mailing.

Steve has not yet spoken to his contact Alex about holding an outdoor photography workshop for members. Will report back to board when completed.

Steve provided draft of revised OPTU letterhead. All Board members voted to accept the letterhead.

Roseann provided all board members with OPTU business cards which she printed out herself. She indicated that to have them done professionally would run about \$300 based on past orders.

Kathleen reported on feedback from Beverly Smith of TU National regarding recent total membership numbers per TU's database. There was a recent drop in the number of members when sending blast emails. Kathleen reported that Beverly indicated a recent upgrade/change to their database now precludes expired members from receiving any information sent through TU. That is being worked on and rectified.

Steve reported that he had contacted San Pedro Fly Casters in Sierra Vista and obtained 20 tickets to their upcoming banquet on March 9, 2013. Tickets will be offered to OPTU members for purchase and in support of their club.

Steve handed out OPTU budget prepared by Cathy Hill. A review of the budget revealed it is not the updated budget, Steve will get back to Cathy for correct budget. It was noted that there was no line item expenditure for outings, that needs to reflect \$4,000 budget for 2013

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Joe Fagan indicated that he has two upcoming outings, one in February and one in April. He has yet to have any of the OPTU members to volunteer to help. He indicated that he does need volunteers for April during which he will teach fishing to 25 Apache students from Mt. Turnbull Academy.

Joe reported that Trout in classroom seems to be doing well.

CONSERVATION / WOMEN'S INITIATIVES

Roseann reported that she is planning a data collection/cleanup and fishing event on April 12th and 13th at Frye Mesa.

The women's casting clinic is scheduled for April 6-7, 2013. Only those attending the Saturday, April 6th class will be able to progress to the intermediate /advanced class on April 7th. The Saturday class will begin with classroom type instruction in the morning and casting specifics in the afternoon.

NEW BUSINESS

Steve indicated that the speaker for the March member meeting will be Ray Gainey from Sierra Vista who will speak about float trips in Alaska.

Steve proposed the board vote on advertising in the upcoming "Wrinklenecks" banquet brochure. The board voted and agreed to do a half page ad (\$45), motion made by Roseann, seconded by Vaughn.

Joe Fagan indicated that he needed a place to store all his equipment he uses for Youth Activities and Trout in the Classroom. Board voted to allow Joe to retain a storage facility for the storage, motion seconded by Vaughn

Board meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

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.

THROWBACK PHOTOS







Newsletter Items That Don't Often Change

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:

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.lrcu.org/movies/TheWayofaTrout/>

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

Check out this video of Chris Woods of TU talking about our efforts in the Southwest.

<http://youtu.be/CwFry99OhqE>

This URL refers to the 1st 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>

Check out this video of Chris Woods of TU talking about our efforts in the Southwest.

<http://youtu.be/CwFry99OhqE>

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

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

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>
