

OPTU NEWS

Old Pueblo Trout Unlimited

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

Volume 20, Issue 11



Index

Items that Change

- President's Message - **Info on speaker and December party**
- Conservation Report - **Several coming up**
- Youth Activity Report - **An extensive report and pix**
- Project Healing Waters Report - **Trip report and lots of pix**
- Upcoming Fishing Trips and Outings Reports - **Check these out - don't miss the Rose Canyon hike-ins**
- Tips and Tricks
- Fishing Reports - **Nobody went fishing ;-)**
- Quotes & Jokes
- For Sale / For Rent
- OPTU Board Meeting Minutes - **Keep in the loop**
- Dry Creek Outfitters News - **Visit Eric and buy stuff**

Items that Don't Change Much

- Movie Links
- Help on Places to Fish
- OPTU Facebook Page

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers and Coordinators

President: Steve Reiter (h) 520-795-2388
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Vice President: Open

Secretary: Kathleen Vitelli

Treasurer: Cathy Hill

Cathy@skbuilders.net

Membership Chair: Open

Conservation Chair: Roseann Marsett
rzann@comcast.net

Healing Waters Chair: Robin Marsett
rmarsett@comcast.net

Meetings Host: Scott Koltavy (h)
520-731-1134

Fishing Trip Chair: Joe Vitelli
520-885-8357

Public Relations Chair: Michael
Fletcher 520-744-1631
mmltfletch@msn.com

Trout in the Classroom Chair: Joe
Fagan jfaganfished@gmail.com

Youth Education Chair: Joe Fagan

Banquet Chair:

Assistant Banquet Chair: Dave Combs
davecombs47@gmail.com

Other Board Members

Jeff Collins (emeritus)

Roger McKee (ex officio)

Newsletter Editor: John Murphy
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Anglers:

If you have not already completed and sent in an early ballot, please VOTE on Tuesday, November 6. If you are still undecided, you have plenty of time to become informed about the candidates and issues, on all levels - local, state, and national. Exercising your right to vote is a serious responsibility. There are people all over the world fighting and dying for the privilege of selecting their leaders and having a voice in issues that affect their lives. They look to us and other democratically-governed countries for hope. Don't let them down by trivializing the voting process....



There is to be a conservation workday on the West Fork of the Black River on Saturday, October 27. We will be downloading data from stream data loggers placed in the WFBR by AzG&F, and doing a photographic record of the data logger locations. Those who are interested can contact Roseann Marsett (rzann@comcast.net) for more information. Some will be camping at the administrative area on FR 116 about a quarter-mile south of FR 273, west of Crescent Lake. Personally, I will be "camping" at the Best Western in Eagar, as my son has all my camping gear... Saturday meals and Porta-Johns will be provided. It's not too late to sign up, but please don't wait until the last minute so we can plan the food accordingly.

We have planned the Holiday Party for Saturday, December 8, at the home of Joe and Kathleen Vitelli. The main entrees will be provided by OPTU. More information in the newsletter. The Holiday Party is also when we traditionally have elections for OPTU officers. If you are interested in seeking any office in OPTU (President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer) please attend the event and be heard. Fortunately for all of us, there will be no conventions, political signs, debates, PACs, etc., but you will probably have to at least state your qualifications, two of which are that you are a member of TU (not necessarily OPTU) and you will commit to a two-year term. In any case, I hope to see you at the party and share some good cheer....

Best Regards,
Steve Reiter, OPTU President

2012 OPTU HOLIDAY PARTY

We hope you can join us for this year's OPTU holiday party which will be held at the Vitelli residence on Saturday, December 8, 2012 at 6:00 pm.

The Vitelli's will provide several main dishes, soft drinks and appetizers. Party goers are asked to provide a side dish - something festive - perhaps a special dish you prepare for friends and family. You are also welcome to byob any beverage you wish to enjoy!

Please rsvp to Kathleen at 520-885-8357 or by email: kayceesgarden@att.net, by 12/4 if you will be attending and what you will be bringing for all to enjoy. We hope to see you there!!

CONSERVATION NEWS

OPTU OCTOBER 2012 CONSERVATION PROJECT

The weekend of October 27 - 28, 2012 is our first conservation weekend to locate and learn to use the temperature loggers installed by Arizona Fish and Game in the White Mountains.

We plan on arriving on Friday evening, October 26th so we can get an early start on Saturday morning. AZFGD will take volunteers to 5 of the 6 sites and show us what needs to be done, where the picture locations are and how to use the loggers. For this first trip, each of us will go to all 5 sites to become familiar with the systems and their locations. After this initial trip, we will be gathering this data on our own. We will drive to each site and, following a short hike, we will locate each logger.



We will have a camp set up near Reservation Lake (we have camped here on previous trips) and will be providing breakfast, lunch and dinner on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday. If you choose not to camp, there are motels in Eager (Best Western (800)780-7234) which are not too far away. Our tasks will be completed by Saturday evening before dinner. Some of us will stay until Sunday to fish and enjoy the cooler weather.

Please contact Roseann Marsett, OPTU Conservation Chairperson, at rzann@comcast.net or 520-760-1659 if you would like to help and would like directions to the campsite. We understand that the Elk are bugling and the weather is beautiful, so come up and assist AZFGD and your TU Chapter!!

YOUTH ACTIVITY REPORT

by Joe Fagan

For Trout in the Classroom (TIC) our Trout Tank (aquarium) has been set up in a 3rd grade classroom of Ms. Bayla Canote at Desert Sky Community School in Tucson. Another teacher, Ms. Diane Crenshaw, will also participate in TIC at the school with her students. The children are very excited. It is the "talk" of the whole school. Children can hardly wait until eyed-eggs of Rainbow Trout are delivered. They have already drawn pictures of fish to show to me. I suggested that they put the drawings into their scrap-book journals that they will be keeping for their project.

The teachers, 3 parent volunteers, and OPTU member Don Baer have participated in the training (second of three sessions) to set up the trout tank with chiller, filtration system, and aerator.

A third training session was necessary to teach how to do routine water quality testing. At that time the tank had beneficial bacteria added to the water. The bacteria need to grow in the tank and filter system to safely remove poisonous wastes from the water after the trout are



delivered.

Students will have to learn a routine of proper care of the aquarium and learn how to record measurements done during water quality testing. Once teams of students have learned to do testing and recording the Rainbow Trout eggs can be picked up at the beginning of December from the Tonto Creek hatchery or the Sterling Springs hatchery the week before Christmas. I may need volunteer/s to make a one-day trip to drive to the hatchery pick up the 100 Rainbow trout eggs (and trout food) and bring them back to the school. Of course, details will need to be worked out ahead of time.

I will be representing OPTU's TIC program at the national Aquatic Resources Education Association (AREA) Conferences in Phoenix October 21 - 25. I will be on a panel to present what we are doing in Tucson with TIC. I will also do a presentation on how to teach children to fly-fish the Japanese Tenkara style. One field trip will go to Fossil Creek where I will instruct educators how to use inexpensive, telescoping, crappie rods as Tenkara fly-rods to fish for round tailed chubs.

I continue to work with the Boy Scouts as Fishing Programs Advisor on the Camping Committee for the Catalina Council. OPTU members are expected to be called upon to teach Boy Scouts the requirements for Fly Fishing Merit Badge. This will be done at Camp Lawton in the Catalina Mountains one of the weeks of summer camp. Leaders have resolved their problems with having an amply supply of water for a couple months of summer camps. We may be called on to assist individual troops in teaching the Scouts how to do fly-fishing for their merit badges. Requirements include fly-tying which some of us OPTU members are prepared to teach.

I did get permission to use the bunk houses at the AZGFD Cluff Ranch for two Fishing Programs that I will be doing for the AZGFD. My wife (Mary Welch) and I will be using the bunk house to stay at when I teach two Fishing Programs. The 25 students are Apache, Native-American high school students in grades 10, 11, and 12. They attend Mt. Turnbull Academy in Bylas, Arizona. The first fishing program will be Wednesday, February 27 (at their school) 10:00 AM - noon and Thursday, Feb. 28th, at Cluff Ranch Pond, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM. That first Program will be about bait fishing. If you volunteer to help you would be welcome to stay at the bunk house with Mary and me the day we arrive, Tuesday, the 26th of Feb. and stay through the 28th to help the students learn to fish and demonstrate fly-fishing. During that stay, fishing for Gila trout at Frey Mesa Reservoir (or Cluff Ranch Pond - bring float-tubes) is appropriate for volunteers.



We will repeat this with the same group during 3 days in April; the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. This time, however, will be about fly-fishing. We would teach fly-tying at their school on April 23. Fly casting and fishing would be taught at Cluff Ranch Pond on the 4th. I definitely need volunteers to help me teach the fly-tying at the school and to teach fly-casting at the pond. As described in the paragraph above, we are free to fish during our time off from teaching students.

Let me know if you are willing to help volunteer at any of the youth oriented activities.

Joe Fagan



We are always open to having OPTU members volunteer for Youth Activities. As projects materialize members will be notified. Our active, current project is Trout in the Classroom.

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*

Joe Fagan posted a nice link on our Facebook page to a blog about **fly fishing etiquette**. Worth a read though I know all of you already know better. You may have to copy and paste the link because I couldn't make it work correctly.

<http://www.fieldandstream.com/blogs/flytalk/2012/09/don't-be-guy-guide-good-fly-fishing-etiquette?>

PROJECT HEALING WATERS FLY FISHING



Project Healing Waters had several exciting trips this summer. We went to Alaska twice, Colorado once and the White Mountains once.

We started with a great trip to the Kobuk River of northwest Alaska in July. As often happens in Alaska things did not go as planned. Low water in the river and bad weather prevented us from covering the last twenty-five miles from the village of Kobuk to our fish camp upriver. After our plane ride from Kotzebue with ERA Alaska Aviation in a small single engine airplane we were stuck in this remote village of ninety-one souls with no place to sleep.

Charles, our guide and I went on a quest to find accommodations for ten cold and wet people. We were lucky and the school teacher made an empty one bedroom apartment available to us. We also were given space in the church where four of us slept on cots and the floor.

The villagers stepped up and insured we had a good time. Many new friends were made and lots of fish were landed. The young boys of the village learned we were going fishing they asked if they could "follow",

we said yes. They piled into the boats. From then on we had native guides. We caught Grayling, Pike and a few Sheefish.

I want to thank the people of Kobuk Alaska, the guys from Bethel Service and Lynden Air Cargo for all they did for us. Special thanks go to Billy Bernhardt, Erin Meehan and Kastin McKay, all of Kobuk.

Our next trip was in August to the Tangle Lakes region of Alaska. Tangle Lakes sit just south of the Alaska Range on the east end of the old Denali Highway. At an elevation of just over 2600 feet it is above timber line with the awesome views offered by the open tundra.

The fishing was for Grayling, Grayling and more Grayling. We caught them on dry flies, nymphs and streamers. They were hungry, plentiful and of a good size. Jack and Naidine Johnson of Tangle River Inn supported us in this activity by providing us with reduced rate rooms and free meals. They also provided boats and guides as did the BLM. Tangle River Inn <http://www.tangleriverinn.com/> will be a frequent location for our future trips.

I will write about our Colorado and White Mountain Trips in the next issue. Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing is continuing to tie flies, build rods and take trips. Contact me if you are interested in helping out with these. *Robin Marsett*

Calendar

Nov 7: Regular meeting at the Viscount - 6:30 pm - 4855 East Broadway, Tucson, AZ, 85711. Speaker Tom McMahon, Invasive Species coordinator for the Arizona Game and Fish Department. His presentation will cover aquatic invasive species (AIS), including quagga mussels, didymo ("rock snot"), whirling disease, and crayfish. There is a great deal of information on the AZG&F web site, www.azgfd.gov and type in AIS Program in the search bar.

Nov 21: Lie and Tie (6:30 pm); Dry Creek Outfitters, 5655 East River Road, Suite 131. Call Eric at 326-7847.

Nov 28: Board meeting at TBA - 6 pm.

Dec 5: Regular meeting at the Viscount - 6:30 pm - 4855 East Broadway, Tucson, AZ, 85711. Speaker TBA.

Dec 8: Holiday party. Home of Kathleen and Joe Vitelli. Main course and soft drinks provided. BYOB and one side dish. Directions in body of newsletter. Brief board meeting and election of officers will also occur

Dec 19: Lie and Tie (6:30 pm); Dry Creek Outfitters, 5655 East River Road, Suite 131. Call Eric at 326-7847.



Captain Robin piloting the boat



Upcoming Fishing Trips and Outings Reports

NOVEMBER 2012 OPTU OUTINGS REPORT - BACK IN TUCSON!!

My wife Kathleen and I are back in Tucson for the winter. We had a great summer in Pennsylvania. It was an exceptional summer season chock full of fishing with our grandsons. We caught Bass, Northern Pike and Native Brookies.....more than we dared to count! And if that's not enough, how about Salmon, Steelhead and Brown Trout fishing in upstate New York. It was truly a record-breaking year for this family. But I would be remiss if I did not mention the most gratifying trip of the summer - volunteering with the Marsetts and Project Healing Waters in Durango, Colorado this past September. Thank you to all our veterans for your unselfish sacrifices in defense of this country!!

So, without further ramblings, the following is the upcoming schedule for OPTU outings for the month of November:

- November 7, 2012 - Rose Canyon Lake
- November 19, 2012 - Rose Canyon Lake

On the above dates OPTU will have day fly fishing outings at Rose Canyon Lake, located in the Santa Catalina mountains, less than an hour from Tucson. As I have always said, it is a great place to fly fish for stocked Brown and Rainbow Trout.

The main road to the lake off Catalina Highway is closed for the winter. The great news is that the lake will not be crowded! We will, however, have to walk about a mile in to get to the lake and a mile on the return trip. The parking area is located on Catalina Highway just past mile marker 17, just past the closed road to Rose Canyon. Meeting time is 9:30 a.m. at the parking area on Catalina Highway. You can always contact me at 520-885-8357 for more information. Hope to see you there, great time for fishing, camaraderie and a good cigar! As a side note, if you have any suggestions for an outing, please let me know. *Joe Vitelli*

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.

New products offered at Dry Creek Outfitters. We are an authorized dealer for Hardy & Greys fly rods. The new Hardy Zenith and Proaxis fly rods have received high praise from many in the industry including famed tarpon hunter, Andy Mill. Additional brands now available through Dry Creek are Lamson/Waterworks fly reels, Loomis fly rods and accessories and R.L. Winston fly rods.

Dry Creek resides at the River Center mall; NE corner of River and Craycroft and is open **Tuesdays through Sundays** from 10 am to 7 pm Tuesday to Friday, 9:30 am to 6 pm Saturday, and 11 am to 4 pm on Sunday. The shop is *closed Mondays*. 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*

FOR SALE

I have two Aquapac waterproof camera bags (one for camera and one for video camera) that are used for filming underwater with non-waterproof cameras. Google the bags to see what they are like. Have never used. \$10 each. Call John at 520-250-4083.

Tips and Tricks

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 despite many folks going fishing.

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

I have two dry bags for underwater filming using a regular camera or video camera that are not waterproof. Neither has been used. Would be good for filming your fish as they come in or for scuba/snorkeling trips. They are Aquapacs (check out on the web). \$10 for each. 520-250-4083.

OPTU BOARD MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 26, 2012

ATTENDEES:

Steve Reiter, President; Roseann Marsett, Conservation
Mick Fletcher, PR (AZTU Chair); Joseph Vitelli, Outings
Joe Fagan, Youth Activities; Kathleen Vitelli, Secretary
Robin Marsett, PHWFF

This meeting was held via teleconference commencing at 6:00 p.m. (MST)

NEW BUSINESS

Steve discussed the recent resignation of Nan Phillips, Membership Chairperson from the OPTU Board. Motion was made for the board to accept her resignation, seconded by Joe Fagan.

Steve reported a need to set up accountability of shirt and patch sales at Dry Creek Outfitters. A running count of how much money Eric made from the sale of OPTU shirts and patches is necessary. Joe Vitelli confirmed that in April 2012 he provided Dry Creek with 15 t-shirts, 10 polo shirts and 10 patches and Mick reported that he gave Whitey an additional 6 t-shirts and 6 polo shirts to be sold at Dry Creek. Eric will separate the money for the sale of these shirts and provide to OPTU on a monthly basis. Steve reported that Eric had given him two invoices from purchases made by OPTU from six years ago and Steve cut a check for \$170 to pay this debt. Providing shirts and patches to Dry Creek should be re-evaluated.

YEARLY BUDGET

Steve reported that Cathy Hill's yearly budget (sent to Board members via email) indicated a current balance of approximately \$28,456.00, about \$1,500.00 less than last year. Roseann stated that the mission of OPTU was not to make a profit.

BANQUET

Roseann indicated she had been to several venues to price out the cost of holding a banquet. Ventana Resort's price was \$42 per head but required a guaranteed minimum of 150 people. She found the same minimum requirement at other venues. Roseann put out a suggestion that perhaps we should follow Sierra Vista's protocol of holding a banquet every two years. This would allow our fundraising person, Dave Combs, some leeway when asking for donations from local businesses. A suggestion was made that we work in conjunction with Sierra Vista, we will guarantee OPTU attendance at their banquet with reciprocity by Sierra Vista at our banquet. This may also increase attendance. Steve Reiter suggested looking into the Viscount as a possible banquet facility and getting help from Ed Wilkins. Steve expressed some concern about the two year banquet schedule and not having any money coming in on the off year. Further discussion on banquet will be tabled until October board meeting.

Discussion about this year's OPTU holiday party and where it would be held led to the Vitelli's volunteering to have the party at their house in December, the date will be 12/8. Further discussion to firm party particulars to be held at next month's meeting.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Joe indicated that we had two schools chosen for Trout in the Classroom to begin this fall. Both schools were very enthusiastic about the program, however it seems that enthusiasm has wavered and the teachers don't seem to be very interested. Joe has done all he could to make TIC happen, even offering to go to the classes to discuss the program, with little result. Joe indicated that Phoenix was attempting to start TIC and there was some information they had received funding from the sale of AZ conservation license plates. Joe has heard nothing about this from the national organization. Joe reported that most states that have TIC fund the equipment themselves, with Pennsylvania having about 250 schools involved. There was further discussion about scouting and fly fishing merit badges. Joe indicated that he will be attending National Conference in Scottsdale in October.

CONSERVATION

Roseann discussed in-stream monitors placed on the West Fork of the Black River by AZGFD and OPTU's involvement in reading the monitors and collecting data. Roseann was given a CD and binders regarding this. Roseann is waiting for word back from AZGFD as to when our assistance will be needed and this will be a planned event for OPTU. Additionally, Roseann would like to organize a clean up at Frye Mesa Reservoir either now or in the spring. Joe Vitelli wished to have the snow birds kept in mind, if possible, when planning these events. Several board members indicated that there are other volunteer opportunities in the Tucson area, such as lake clean-up, Tucson Meet Yourself, Bufflegrass mitigation, etc. Kathleen Vitelli indicated that as a member of the the Southern Arizona Porsche Club, she participates in bufflegrass events and also adopt-a-roadway cleanups, which is something we can do. Joe Fagan stated he does other volunteer activities with AZGFD.

MONTHLY SPEAKERS FOR MEMBER MEETINGS

Steve Reiter discussed finding speakers for upcoming meetings. Perhaps having an entomologist talk about aquatic bugs. Joe Fagan said he teaches that very topic. Joe Fagan suggested perhaps U of A graduate students do a presentation such as Sally Petrie. He also suggested having a speaker talk about invasive species in Southern Arizona. It was also suggested that we have Robin do a presentation on PHWFF with

respect to their 2012 trips to Alaska and Colorado. Steve indicated that he has Jared Nelson from Lee's Ferry Anglers lined up as guest speaker for October 3rd, and will send bio to Kathleen Vitelli so a blast email could be sent to all members.

Steve brought up meeting locations for our monthly member meetings, which we now hold at the Viscount at a cost of \$200 per meeting.

BOARD MEMBER VACANCIES

Steve discussed current board member vacancies, i.e. membership chair and vice-president and how we should approach other members for recruitment.

Teleconference meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. MST.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY KATHLEEN VITELLI, OPTU SECRETARY

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.

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.lrctu.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/CwF1y99OhqE>

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/CwF1y99OhqE>

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>