

# OPTU NEWS

## Old Pueblo Trout Unlimited

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

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Officers and Coordinators

**President:** Steve Reiter (h) 520-795-2388  
[sreiter4@cox.net](mailto:sreiter4@cox.net)

**Vice President:** Vaughn Johnson

**Secretary:** Kathleen Vitelli

**Treasurer:** Cathy Hill

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**Membership Chair:** Open

**Conservation Chair:** Roseann Marsett

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Healing Waters Chair: Robin Marsett

[rmarsett@comcast.net](mailto:rmarsett@comcast.net)

**Meetings Host:** Scott Koktavy (h)

520-731-1134

**Fishing Trip Chair:** Joe Vitelli

520-885-8357

**Public Relations Chair:** Michael

Fletcher 520-744-1631

[mmltfletch@msn.com](mailto:mmltfletch@msn.com)

**Trout in the Classroom Chair:** Joe

Fagan [jfaganfished@gmail.com](mailto:jfaganfished@gmail.com)

**Youth Education Chair:** Joe Fagan

**Banquet Chair:**

**Assistant Banquet Chair:** Dave Combs

[davecombs47@gmail.com](mailto:davecombs47@gmail.com)

### Other Board Members

Jeff Collins (emeritus)

Roger McKee (ex officio)

**Newsletter Editor:** John Murphy

520-299-3278; email:

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### Address:

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Anglers:

Just a brief update on our two fundraising efforts:

Banquet ticket sales seem to be doing pretty well, so far. We have actual sales or commitments for about 40 tickets to date. Don't forget, the early bird 10% discount of \$50/ticket expires on December 1st. Tickets will be sold at each monthly meeting (Nov. 6, Dec. 4, Jan 8, 2014 (note date change to 2nd Wednesday, as the first Wednesday is New Years Day), and Feb. 5); cash or check only. Tickets can also be purchased at Dry Creek Outfitters, NE corner of Craycroft and River Rd.; cash, check or credit card.

Raffle tickets sales for the Orvis Helios 2 outfit are moving a bit slower than hoped. To date we have less than 20 tickets sold, and we need to sell at least 150 tickets to break even and make a few bucks. Our goal is 300 tickets sold by the banquet. Again, tickets can be purchased at each monthly meeting (cash or check) or at Dry Creek (cash, check, or credit card). If for some reason your are unable to attend the banquet, please consider purchasing a couple of raffle tickets in support of your Chapter activities. Who knows, you may end up with the Grand Prize for your generosity.

Our speaker for November is Robin Marsett, known to most of you as the Project Healing Waters FlyFishing coordinator for the past several years. Robin recently returned from Alaska, where he and his wife, Roseann, hosted wounded troops from Southern Arizona in pursuit of grayling and salmon. Robin will give a slide show presentation of their trip.

The Board has decided not to have a Holiday Party this year, opting instead for a regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, December 4, 7 p.m., at the Viscount Suites hotel. I hope to see you there.... Best Regards and Tight Lines...

Steve Reiter  
From the Executive Suite,  
*Steve Reiter, OPTU President*

## BIANNUAL BANQUET - Important Date for Your Calendar

On March 8, 2014 the OPTU Banquet Fund Raiser will be held at Tanque Verde Guest Ranch. This biannual event is very important to all of us because it provides the funds necessary to support all our programs, such as Trout in the Classroom, conservation projects, Project Healing Waters, fishing excursions and our monthly meetings. Your support means everything to us, so please plan to attend. The planning for the banquet is well underway and we believe this will be prove to be an excellent evening of fun, fellowship, opportunities to buy some great things, and the trading of fishing stories (or tall tales). We promise you won't be disappointed.

Tickets will go on sale in September. If you have any questions, want to volunteer, or want to donate in any way please send me an email at [vaughninaz@cox.net](mailto:vaughninaz@cox.net) and thanks for your time and continued support of OPTU.  
*Vaughn A. Johnson, VP and 2014 Chairman OPTU Banquet*



## **WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES**

### **Women's Initiative (WI)**

OPTU is looking for someone to take the lead for this work. Responsibilities include taking part in the monthly teleconference, attending a monthly board meeting and working with the board to encourage more women to participate in Trout Unlimited. The only requirements are that you participate in the phone meetings and let the board know the WI status. Please contact Roseann at 760.1659 or rzann@comcast.net for information on the next teleconference.

## **CONSERVATION NEWS**

Plans for Temperature Logging work are for the second weekend in November (Nov 9-10). We would drive up Friday afternoon/evening Nov, 8<sup>th</sup>, meet up Saturday morning, work Saturday and Sunday and drive home Sunday afternoon/evening. OPTU would supply lunches for everyone for both Sat & Sun. We are each responsible for our own overnight arrangements. We will send out a blast with the exact details. In the next week or two. Stay tuned.

## **YOUTH ACTIVITY REPORT**

*by Joe Fagan*

On Thursday September 19<sup>th</sup> a few OPTU members volunteered to assist with the Boy Scout's Adventure Program with their Powder Horn event. About 25 older (14 to 21 years old) Scouts, both male and female, took time to learn Fly-casting from Dan Malone and Steve Reiter. I taught them how to tie some simple fishing flies. My wife, Mary Welch, provided classes, bait, and fishing rods for fishing at Pena Blanca Lake (Only 15 sunfish were caught). The event provided other learning opportunities over 3 days to learn other outdoor skills like rock climbing, kayaking, leaving no trace to name a few.

Trout in the Classroom (TIC) will be done at Flowing Wells High School this school year. We will be working with agriculture students. They are already raising tilapia fish, but will work with a small, cold fishery in the classroom. Students wish to do fly-fishing training during the winter holidays, January 2 and 3. Classroom training would be in their classroom at Flowing Wells H. S. on the 2nd. Casting training and Fly-fishing for trout would be at Silverbell Lake on the 3rd. Three eleventh and twelfth grade young men have been teaching TIC to their agri-science classmates as an agricultural project this school year. They suggested the holiday dates to me saying that their classmates that really want to learn fly-fishing will be the ones that show up. I would hope OPTU members will mentor students one on one for the training. Contact Joe Fagan if you wish to help.

We are starting a second trout aquarium for another TIC program at another school with 4<sup>th</sup> grade students at Fruchthendler Elementary School on the NE side of Tucson.

Our chiller that we have been using and its water pump have broken after 6 years of use. We may have the chiller repaired to use as an emergency stand-by for two working chillers. We will have to purchase a new chiller (The rainbow trout eggs and fry must be kept at a cool temperature of 53 degrees Fahrenheit). Our new Fruchthendler Elementary School will need the new chiller, perhaps using the repaired old one until we can get it replaced with a new one. Chillers are expensive, costing a little more than \$700 each.

We will need active participation in TIC with OPTU volunteers if we wish to expand TIC to other schools in Tucson. I will not be able to do the work alone as we add more schools. Once TIC "catches on" in

Tucson, we may expect schools to purchase their own equipment and provide expertise help assisting beginning teachers in TIC. See the link if you want more information about national Trout in the Classroom.

<http://www.troutintheclassroom.org/>

For Boy Scouts, I remain a representative for OPTU on the Camping Committee for the Catalina Council. We are still interested in involvement with Boy and Cub Scouts learning to fish. But we will need to have more involvement of OPTU members if we want to get youth involved with OPTU. I would like to have an OPTU representative available to teach Fly-Fishing Merit Badge requirements on most days of 4 weeks of summer camps up at Camp Lawton this summer. Contact me if you are willing to help out this summer up in the cool of the Catalina Mountains. We can have a venue to teach up there, tying flies of our own if we are not busy with Boy Scouts.

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**



Starting on January 1st the program will be led by Captain Chris Allen of Sierra Vista and Major Mario Bracamonte of Tucson. They started as participants in the program and have now become the leaders. Please give them your support as they continue the good work.

#### **PROJECT HEALING WATERS WHITE MOUNTAIN TRIP SEPTEMBER 27 - OCT. 2, 2013**

Project Healing Waters just completed a three day fishing trip to Aker Lake, X-Diamond Ranch and Silver Creek in the White Mountains of Arizona.

##### **DAY ONE -- AKER LAKE**

Aker Lake is located in the mountains southwest of Alpine in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. The day was sunny and clear with light winds. Although the lake is small in size, it holds a large population of Graylings....yes Graylings in Arizona, not to mention Apache trout. Upon arrival, we could see fish rising to feed from the surface, an encouraging sign for successful fishing. The veterans used both dry flies and nymphs both of which were enticing the fish. After five hours of fishing over 25 grayling were caught along with one nice Apache trout. A great lakeside lunch was enjoyed as were many cigars!

##### **DAY TWO -- X-DIAMOND RANCH**

We were generously permitted access to the X-Diamond waters in the South Fork Canyon on the Little Colorado River near the Village of Greer. Fishing started on the stocked trout ponds which proved to be a bit slow due to muddy conditions caused by earlier rains.

A command decision was made to move to the area of the Little Colorado which runs through the ranch. The water flow was perfect and the trout were biting. Dry fly fishing proved to be a little slow so the anglers switched to bead head nymphs. There wasn't a pool on the river that failed to yield two or three trout. Their size ranged from 7 to 14 inches, both Browns and Rainbows!



### DAY THREE -- SILVER CREEK

Silver Creek is a true spring creek which is heavily stocked with Rainbow and Apache trout, sizes ranging upwards of 30 inches. We arrived on opening day of the upper catch and release section of the creek. Our friends from AZ Game and Fish made it a very special day for our veterans group as well as other Project Healing Waters groups from throughout Arizona. We all had our own section of the creek to fish. Additionally, the Grand Canyon Council of Boy Scouts of Arizona provided breakfast and lunch and a local band provided some great music. As expected on an opening day, the bite was on! The fish were very aggressive and needless to say the trout were large. The Apache trout caught ranged in size between 14 to 18 inches and the Rainbow trout ranged from 16 to 24 inches.

We have attached some pictures of the days catch. A more complete photo log has been posted to the PHWFF and OPTU Facebook page.

I would like to congratulate a job well done in organizing and running this trip to Mario Bracamonte, Major (RET.), who will be the new director of the Tucson PHWFF chapter and will share responsibilities with Captain Chris Allen of the Fort Huachuca chapter. I would be remiss not to mention Robin Marsett who started the local PHWFF chapter five years ago dedicating thousands of hours of his own time to make this program a success.

### Upcoming Fishing Trips and Outings Reports

None to note.

### 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.

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*

#### Calendar

**NOV 6:** Regular meeting at the Viscount - 6:30 pm - 4855 East Broadway, Tucson, AZ, 85711. Speaker Robin Marsett on the latest Project Healing Waters trip to Alaska in 2013.

**NOV 6:** BOARD MEETING: 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Viscount Suites.

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

**DEC 4:** Regular meeting at the Viscount - 6:30 pm - 4855 East Broadway, Tucson, AZ, 85711. Speaker TBA

**DEC 4:** BOARD MEETING: 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Viscount Suites.

**NOV 18:** Lie and Tie (6:30 pm); Dry Creek Outfitters, 5655 East River Road, Suite 131. Call Eric at 326-7847.

### Tips and Tricks

Fun facts about WD-40 <http://wd40.com/about-us/myths-legends-fun-facts/>  
Google fly fishing tips and techniques for hundreds of links.

## FISHING REPORTS

### OPTU Fly-Fishing Report - Circleville, Utah - September, 2013

Circle Valley Anglers; Owner: Emmett Doane

Four years ago, long-time OPTU member Harry Heimann met six women at Ft. Lowell Park. Each was holding a \$50 fly rod. His challenge: Teach them the basics of the sport of flyfishing. Today, all six women are enthusiastic fly fishers and all are OPTU members.

At the end of September, two of the group, Mary Frances Ruddick and Kathleen Sullivan travelled to Circleville, Utah to join owner Emmett Doane at Circle Valley Anglers. Emmett had been a guest speaker at an OPTU meeting last winter. His presentation, the beauty of the area, and the allure of several blue-ribbon streams, triggered immediate interest.

Guide Lenny introduced them to a variety of streams at different altitudes from mountains to meadows. They fished six pristine streams: Beaver Creek, Merchant's Creek, Asay Creek, Mammoth Creek, Panguitch Creek, Bunker Creek and their favorite - Kingston Canyon.

Fish Caught: Cutthroat; Bonneville Cutthroat; Rainbows and Rocky Mountain Whites. Used hopper/dropper patterns: Wooly Buggers (purple); Prince Nymphs; Pheasant Tail flashbacks, Hares Ears, etc. The purple Woolys were a big hit.

Circle Valley Anglers has a comfortable lodge with full kitchen and their guided trips are set up for singles, groups or families. Their guides are adept from beginners to advanced. The restaurant across the street serves good meals. There is a motel attached to the restaurant that can easily accommodate over-flow. Hiking at Bryce and Zion is nearby is a real bonus.

*Kathleen Sullivan [sullivank@comcast.net](mailto:sullivank@comcast.net) 520-225-0113*

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 2, 2013

### ATTENDEES:

Steve Reiter, President	Joe Fagan, Youth Activities
Vaughn Johnson, V.P.	Joe Vitelli, Outings Coordinator
Dave Combs, Banquet Fundraiser	Mick Fletcher, State Chairperson
Robin Marsett, PHWFF/Conservation	Kathleen Vitelli, Secretary

Meeting was held at Viscount Suites Hotel and was called to order at 5:45 p.m..

Steve discussed the Helios rod/reel package raffle fundraiser in which tickets will be \$20 each or three for \$50. A maximum of 300 tickets will be sold and the final drawing will be at the OPTU March 2014 banquet. Steve had the rod/reel package available for the meeting as well as tickets. Tickets will also be sold at Dry Creek outfitters. Steve will also get info out to administrator of AZfly and tie web blog for posting. Additionally, Steve indicated Eric can take credit cards for purchase of raffle tickets as long as OPTU pays his 3% fee; all agreed. Some discussion continued about other venues to sell tickets at in Tucson such as sporting events or in conjunction with PHWFF booths which will now be handled by Mario Bracamonte in the wake of Robin stepping down at the end of the year. Robin will reach out to Mario.

## BANQUET UPDATE

Dave indicated he is working on the solicitation of donations for the banquet. He indicated that Circle Valley anglers willing to donate lodging for four people for two nights. He also reached out to San Pedro Fly Casters for fundraising sources. Dave feels, as do other board members, that we should not limit our banquet items to being related to fishing. Dave has also reached out to John Osborne of Goldberg and Osborne for a sponsorship donation and John is considering it.

Kathleen is meeting with Tanque Verde Ranch within next week to square away menu, venue setup, etc., for banquet. Discussion about giving full table purchases a free ticket, all agreed.

## OUTINGS

Joe Vitelli discussed the previously dedicated money of \$2,500 which was to be used for a late October/early November OPTU sponsored fishing trip along with PHWFF. He had planned a Utah trip, however, after talking to Circle Valley outfitters, a decision was made not to do the trip as fishing conditions would not be that great. Joe asked that the money be put aside for a trip in the spring.

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Joe Fagan indicated that the water pump is not working and has to be fixed or replaced. Will advise the board. He stated that a second school is started in Northeast Tucson. Joe may need back up chiller in the event the one he has breaks. He also needs to be reimbursed for the storage fees he pays for Youth activities equipment. With respect to the storage facility, Steve indicated he has OPTU items that need to be stored. A suggestion was made to allow PHWFF use some of our equipment if the need arises.

## OTHER BUSINESS

A question was raised as to having an OPTU holiday party....last year's party was at the Vitelli's and the year before at the Marsetts. It was eventually agreed that in light of the work that needs to be done for upcoming banquet, we would forego a party and have a regular meeting/social get together in December with no speaker.

The 2014 budget discussion was tabled for now. The November OPTU meeting speaker will be Robin Marsett with a presentation on PHWFF's trip to Alaska in August. Meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathleen Vitelli, OPTU Secretary

**Arizona Game and Fish Interactive Stocking Schedule**

[http://www.azgfd.gov/pdfs/h\\_f/fishing/stocking/2012SumTroutStockSchedule.pdf](http://www.azgfd.gov/pdfs/h_f/fishing/stocking/2012SumTroutStockSchedule.pdf)

**QUOTES AND JOKES**

Nine times out of ten it's the folks more than the fish that define the character of a trip.... *John Gierach*

**FOR SALE**

I found a website for custom rods that some of you may be interested in viewing  
[www.cbcustomflyrods.com](http://www.cbcustomflyrods.com)

**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.



PROJECT HEALING WATERS PHOTOS (SEE MORE ON THE OPTU FACEBOOK PAGE)





CIRCLEVILLE, UTAH TRIP



Mary Frances is with guide Lenny holding a Rocky Mt. White. (She caught it on her grandfather's bamboo rod). I'm standing with Emmett Doane at Kingston's Canyon. The hiking photo is at Zion.

## 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:

Top Ten Viral Flyfishing Videos (courtesy of Ernie Gradillas) [http://www.flyfishinsalt.com/news/top-10-fly-fishing-videos?](http://www.flyfishinsalt.com/news/top-10-fly-fishing-videos?cmpid=enews040213&spPodID=030&spMailingID=17130073&spUserID=MzU4MjY4ODA3NTQSi&spJobID=213641885&spReportId=MjEzNjQxODg1So)

<http://www.flyfishinsalt.com/news/top-10-fly-fishing-videos?cmpid=enews040213&spPodID=030&spMailingID=17130073&spUserID=MzU4MjY4ODA3NTQSi&spJobID=213641885&spReportId=MjEzNjQxODg1So>

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 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>

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

<http://youtu.be/CwFry99OhqE>

Controversy about what open containment fish farms are doing to native fish and what they might be doing to you when you buy farmed salmon at Costco. It is long but instructive. *Ernie Gradillas*

<http://vimeo.com/61301410>

## 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/eddie/Subscribe/Subs.cfm>