

OPTU NEWS

Old Pueblo Trout Unlimited

Trout Unlimited Chapter 531 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

Vice President: Clay Hernandez

2nd Vice President: Roseanne Marsett

Secretary: Kathleen Vitelli

Treasurer: Cathy Hill

Conservation Chair: Robin Marsett
rmarsett@comcast.net

Project Healing Waters Chair: James Owen

Outings Coordinator: Joe Vitelli
520-885-8357

Public Relations Chair

Youth Programs Chair: Joe Fagan

Membership Chair: Open

Other Board Members

David Combs

Bryan Eto

Mick Fletcher

Scott Koktavy

Paul Olson

Bob O'Brien

Newsletter Editor: John Murphy
520-626-2327; email:
murphy@pharmacy.arizona.edu

Address:

Old Pueblo Trout Unlimited

P O Box 14822

Tucson, AZ 85732-4822

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings, Fellow OPTU'ers

Best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

A bit of trivia: January is named after Janus, the God of beginnings and transitions; the name has its beginnings in Roman mythology, coming from the Latin word for "door", since January is the door to the year. Janus is usually depicted as having two faces, since he looks to the past and to the future.

Our past year has certainly been a busy one. The highlight was the bi-annual banquet in March at the Tanque Verde Guest Ranch, the culmination of many, many hours of work by the Banquet Committee - Dave Combs, Vaughn Johnson, and Kathleen Vitelli. (Thank you, again, for all your hard work.) The banquet was well attended, to the point that we ran out of room in the main hall for "Ocotillo Rain", the bluegrass band that provided music before the meal and led by past-President Jeff Collins, to join us for dinner. They were able to eat at a table just outside, but it was a bit windy and cold...

We continue to hold monthly meetings at the Viscount Suites Hotel, except during the summer months. The location is central and the hotel management do all they can to make us feel welcome. Our speaker's presentations during 2014 have included both conservation-related topics by Mike Anderson and Sally Petre of AZGFD and by Brad Powell of TU; and fishing-related topics by Emmett Doane of Circle Valley Anglers (?xml:namespace prefix = str ns = "urn:schemas-microsoft-com:office:smrttags" /Southern Utah), Vince Deadmond (Lower Salt River, and Rocky Point in Mexico), Jack Houck (Mogollon Rim Lakes), and Ben Smith (Pyramid Lake).

Robin Marsett has been especially busy in 2014. In addition to hosting two PHWFF trips, one to Tangle Lakes in Alaska and one to Durango, Robin has prepared and submitted two Embrace-a-Stream grant applications on behalf of OPTU and has made several conservation-related field trips to both Grant Creek in the Pinaleno Mountains and to Rucker Creek in the Chiricahua Mountains.

Our Trout in the Classroom program at Flowing Wells High School, under the watchful eye of Joe Fagan, was very successful. The students started the year with about 50 brook trout eggs and finished with 7 fingerlings, a survival rate of about 15%. Survival rate in nature is 10% or less, so I would say the students did an admirable job.

So, what's in store for 2015?? **Go on to the next page to find out.**



Our Board starts the new year with 3 new members. Jim Owen, Bryan Eto, and Paul Osborn were accepted to the Board in December. Welcome gentlemen, and Thank You for getting involved.

The TIC program will begin again in January or February at FWHS with a new group of students. Let's see if this group can match or exceed last year's results. We also have a pending opportunity to work with a Boy Scout troop in either February or March, teaching the basics of fly fishing, fly casting, and fly tying.

By late spring we hope to know the outcome of our EAS grant applications, one of which will be used to build and install a new ladder and stream crossing system on Grant Creek to improve access. If we get the money, we will spring into action to try to get it accomplished before summer. Our other grant application is for the purchase of additional temperature loggers to be installed in the Chiricahua Mountains. Watch your newsletters or visit our new and improved web site for updates on our Youth and Conservation efforts.

Starting in May, at the latest, we will be planning the Banquet and Fundraiser for 2016. As always, we can use your help in any capacity you can offer – banquet location and planning, menu selection, contacting individuals and businesses for donations, and much more. Contact me or any Board member if you are willing to pitch in.

And, we will continue our monthly meetings at the Viscount Suites Hotel. If you haven't been to a meeting in a while make a New Year's resolution to come to one or more, mingle with old friends and new, and hear an interesting presentation....

Our speakers for the January 7th meeting are Doug and Shelley Roberts, owners and operators of the Old Moe Guide Service in Dutch John, UT, and guide Brock Henderson. The topic will be fly fishing the Green River below Flaming Gorge reservoir, and will also include a discussion of other things to do in the area (just in case you get tired of catching large brown trout...)

I hope to see you there.

....Best Regards,

Steve Reiter, President

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.

TU.ORG WEBSITE UPGRADE FOR OPTU

The OPTU Chapter is currently working with TU National to add our information to the TU.org web site. The new TU site provides for user stream reports, Chapter event notifications, individual and group blogs and many others. Stop by the tu.org site, add your profile and start exploring, post your fish porn, trip information and anything fishing related to the Old Pueblo -- 531 group site. Roseann Marsett (rzann@comcast.net) and Kathleen Vitelli (kayceesgarden@att.com) welcome your participation. If you have any questions, problems or help with postings please let us know. We hope to have the transition completed by the end of the summer but we are up for your participation in the meantime.

Thanks,
Roseann Marsett

Calendar

JAN 7 Regular meeting at the Viscount - 6:30 pm - 4855 East Broadway, Tucson, AZ, 85711. Speakers Doug and Shelley Roberts, owners and operators of the Old Moe Guide Service in Dutch John, UT, and guide Brock Henderson. The topic will be fly fishing the Green River below Flaming Gorge reservoir.

JAN 7 BOARD MEETING: 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Viscount Suites.

JAN 28: Lie and Tie (6:30 pm); Dry Creek Outfitters, 5655 East River Road, Suite 131. Call Eric at 326-7847.

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

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

FEB 25: Lie and Tie (6:30 pm); Dry Creek Outfitters, 5655 East River Road, Suite 131. Call Eric at 326-7847.

OPTU BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 3, 2014

ATTENDEES

Steve Reiter, President	Joe Fagan, Youth/TIC
Roseann Marsett, 2nd V.P.(phone)	Kathleen Vitelli, Secretary
Robin Marsett, Conservation	Joe Vitelli, Outings TU/PHWFF
Mick Fletcher, State Chair	Paul Olsen
Jim Owen, PHWFF	Dave Combs, Banquet Chair

Meeting commenced at 5:05 p.m.

Steve discussed upgrading storage unit for OPTU at Smart Bargain Storage to 5 x 10 unit. Two keys will be given to Steve and Joe Fagan.

Roseann discussed OPTU bank accounts and that she will be in charge of accounts until Cathy Koltavy returns in January.

Steve indicated old website is no longer in use and users will be redirected to new website. The OPTU letterhead will need to be changed to reflect new Board members, Steve will do this.

Big ticket raffle was discussed for 2015 which is our in between banquet year. A committee was formed to include Dave Combs, Steve and Paul and Robin. Some ideas discussed were guided fishing trips with Cinda Howard or Circle Valley Anglers in Utah. We will not be doing another fishing rod, the last rod raffle netted a few hundred bucks. Robin Marsett suggested that a possibility would be the winner participate in the PHWFF fishing trip to Tangle Lakes, Alaska in 2015 - the winner would be required to pay their own airfare.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Roseann indicated that she has no bank statements and will need them to do a treasurer's report. Steve will furnish them to her in lieu of Cathy.

CONSERVATION

Robin reported that both "Embrace a Stream" (EAS) grants had been completed which asked for \$7,000 in funding: The first grant is for improvements to Grant Creek which would include a ladder, volunteers and labor; the second is for Temperature / Data loggers. Robin indicated he went to Rucker Creek about one month ago with the new AZGFD sport fishing person and reports that there is a lot of damage due to the monsoons which includes no trail, large debris fields 8 - 15 feet high. There was some good water about 1/2 mile below the gates, the four temp loggers will need to be put back in spring.

Robin discussed Cave Creek having temp loggers installed in the spring, but the road to Portal is out. There should be some additional discussion about perhaps looking at Josephine Canyon in the Santa Rita's and Sabino and Lemmon Creek. Also perhaps putting in Willows at the West Fork or maybe Data loggers in Coleman Creek. We also have signs to put up at Grant and Frye Creek.

Robin will now be designated as the second State Delegate along with Mitch Fletcher.

Steve discussed a legislative education meeting which will be set up to meet with the new Congressman (Barber or McSally) once the election recount was completed.

OUTINGS

Joe Vitelli discussed notifying members of upcoming outings via the new OPTU website in lieu of blast emails. Several board members indicated that there are a number of older members who will not use website and rely on the emails to get their information.

The next OPTU outing in conjunction with PHWFF will be on 12/16/14 at Rose Canyon Lake. The January outing will be at Cluff Ranch from 1/8 thru 1/11/2015. OPTU will be furnishing the meals.

Steve discussed the latest from the AZ State Council - Tiger trout will be introduced in Willow Creek and a few others streams. Discussion was held about offering an Arizona Slam fishing award for catching all five species of trout, but no time frames yet.

Steve reminded the Board that the Membership Chair is still vacant and has been for about two years. Discussed TU website and member rosters.

Steve also again discussed member meetings and thoughts about making it a better experience for members. He encouraged board members to contribute to bucket raffles with reimbursement from OPTU. The Board also discussed the San Pedro Fly Casters club in Sierra Vista and the conflict we may have with their banquet - they would normally have their banquet in our off year, but they are not having it this year and have rescheduled for 2016. Some discussion was had to propose we combine both clubs and have one banquet.

YOUTH/TIC

Joe Fagan discussed on TIC class at Flowing Wells this year. Joe indicated that without participation from OPTU membership, he will be resigning his Youth Activities Chair on the Board. Joe discussed a group called HAWG (Hunting Angling Work Groups) and the possibility of utilizing this for youth education.

It should be noted that one of our PHWFF members, Hector Ponce De Leon, came to the meeting and suggested perhaps OPTU could utilize something similar to the TAPS program which raises money online and that he would be willing to help with this effort.

Roseann discussed the new website and encourages participation and contribution to same.

The meeting minutes from November were motioned for acceptance by Kathleen V. and seconded by Robin.

The meeting was concluded at 6:30 p.m..

PROJECT HEALING WATERS FLY FISHING



OPTU / PHWFF FISHING OUTING - JANUARY 8-10, 2015 - CLUFF RANCH

We are pleased to announce a joint OPTU / PHWFF fishing trip to Cluff Ranch which is located just outside Safford, AZ. We have chosen this destination and have timed it to correspond with the announcement by AZGFD of the January opening day of fishing at Frye Creek for Arizona native Gila trout. The opening of Frye Creek is the result of multiple years project of re-introducing the Gila trout back to its native waters. Frye Creek will be designated as a “catch and release” and barbless hook fishery.

In the same area of Cluff Ranch and Frye Creek is the Frye Mesa Reservoir which holds Gila, Brown and Rainbow trout. Additionally, the Cluff Ranch pond is heavily stocked with Rainbow and Brown trout. Both allow float tube fishing! For the more adventurous, we are only an hour and a half from Grant Creek which holds wild Apache trout. Our own Conservation Chairperson, Robin Marsett is our resident Grant Creek expert.

The accommodations at Cluff Ranch is bunkhouse style and can sleep approximately 14 people, with a bathroom located in each bunkhouse. Space will be limited, so if you are interested please contact me, Joe Vitelli at kayceesgarden@att.net

The trip itinerary is as follows:

January 8th - Arrive at Cluff Ranch between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. I suggest you eat before your arrival as no food will be served that evening.

January 9th - Breakfast served at 7 a.m.. All day fishing, dinner at 6:30 p.m.

January 10th - Same as day before except dinner served at 7:00 p.m.

January 11th - Breakfast at 7 a.m., clean and secure bunkhouse, departure at your leisure.

Lunch will also be provided on January 9th and 10th along with water. Anything else you should bring with you, i.e. snacks, cigars, etc.

Be sure to log on to the “new” OPTU website, oldpueblo.tu.org for further details in the near future. Please join and monitor this website so you can receive updates on outings and other events we will be planning.

Joe Vitelli

Upcoming Fishing Trips and Outings Reports

13th Annual San Juan, New Mexico Trip

Dates will be Sunday April 13 to Friday April 18, 2015. If you are interested the cost should be about \$450 for all food, lodging, transportation, and fun. Contact the editor at jemurphy51@me.com to sign up. Trip is limited to 9 people and is half full at present. Money won't be due till about December.



San Juan

Tips and Tricks

- Store your wader repair glue in the freezer. It lasts much longer and warms up quickly.
- Google “fly fishing tips and techniques” for hundreds of useful links.
- Check out the Orvis Fly Fishing Learning Center: Here’s one on tips for winter fishing - appropriate right now. http://howtoflyfish.orvis.com/tests/tips-for-winter-trout-article?ADV=556337&EID=jemurphy51@me.com&cm_mmc=orvisemail_-_Art%20Of%20Fly%20Fishing%202-_01_-_BOD_READI

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*

FOR SALE

Outcast setup is for sale at \$3500 for boat, frame, and trailer (originally ~ \$7k in gear). Call 602-722-5143. Chris Carlson. SilverCreek fly fishing guide service.



Patagonia River Crampons (clip on to your rubber soled boots and cut down on slipping on slippery rocks. Originally \$199 and never used. \$79. Call 520-250-4083.

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. \$600 per week or \$100/night - plus housecleaning fee. Extra beyond 4 guests. Call John at 520-250-4083 if interested in checking it out.

Arizona Game and Fish Interactive Stocking Schedule

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

QUOTES AND JOKES

None this time.

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:

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>

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.lrc.tu.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>

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>

Here is a great video on the "nutrient cycle"more so about salmon but is still a great lesson addition.

<http://aeon.co/video/science/alaska-the-nutrient-cycle-a-short-film-about-chum-salmon/>

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/eddiessubscribe/subs.cfm>
