

OPTU NEWS

Old Pueblo Trout Unlimited

Trout Unlimited Chapter 531 oldpueblo.tu.org Editor: John E. Murphy 520-250-4083

Volume 23, Issue 7



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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2nd Vice President: Roseanne Marsett

Secretary: Kathleen Vitelli

Treasurer: Roseanne Marsett

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rmarsett@comcast.net

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Outings Coordinator: Joe Vitelli
520-885-8357

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Membership Chair: Sheryl Eto

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Bryan Eto

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Bob O'Brien

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings, Fellow OPTU'ers

“Whatever happened to the Apache trout recovery plan? Seems like all we hear and read about these days are Gila trout.” Those questions are from a member at a recent monthly meeting. And, he has a point. In the late-1980s through the middle-1990s our Chapter was heavily involved in Apache trout stream restoration and recovery efforts, most notably on the West Fork of the Black River and some of its tributaries. Since then our involvement has been limited to a couple of work days for barrier maintenance and repair, crawfish removal on the West Fork and Burro Creek, and a few in-stream temperature monitor placements. These are usually handled by a few volunteers, nothing like the 60-70 volunteer days each summer month in the 1990s.

I can assure you that Apache trout recovery is still a part of the overall native trout recovery plan for Arizona as part of the Southwest Native Trout Initiative. The Wallow fire a couple of years ago was a big setback; a number of populations of Apache trout were lost and their habitat was heavily damaged. That is the bad news. The good news is that the fire also wiped out habitat of non-native fish, which will allow native Apache trout to be introduced to those same waters when conditions allow. No barrier placements required, no chemical treatment to remove non-natives. I can't promise we will have any more of those big projects like we did years ago, but there will be volunteer opportunities in the near future.

Somewhat ironically, our speaker for October is Mike Anderson, Native Trout Program Coordinator for Arizona Game and Fish. He will be presenting a program, “Gila Trout Recovery Plan” that was given to the Arizona Game and Fish Commission about a month ago or so. I am sure we can prevail on Mike to give us some updates on recovery of Apache trout as well. The meeting is on Wednesday, October 7, 7:00 p.m. at the Viscount Suite Hotel on Broadway at Arcadia. I hope to see you there.

....Best Regards,

Steve Reiter, President



CONSERVATION

As part of our conservation efforts OPTU has purchased temperature data loggers. They will be placed in Arizona streams to help identify viable trout habitat. We will begin the process of placing these data loggers in the streams this fall. If you have any ideas of candidate streams please let me know. Anyone interested in helping needs to contact me at rmarsett@comcast.net.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department is planning on placing elk exclosures around willow stands on the West Fork of the Black River. If this plan is approved by the US Forest Service we will be asking for help in this effort as well.

Robin Marsett

2016 OPTU Bi-Annual Fundraising Banquet

The time is approaching for our second OPTU bi-annual banquet which will be held on Saturday, March 5, 2016 at the Tanque Verde Guest Ranch (TVR) at the east end of Speedway Boulevard in Tucson. The banquet will begin at 5:30 p.m. to give all of our members time to socialize, grab your favorite libation and peruse the raffle and auction items. Dinner and guest speaker will follow.

We got loads of positive feedback from those of you who attended in 2014 and we wanted to make it happen again. For those of you who missed it, here is your opportunity to join your fellow OPTU members for a fabulous night of great food (buffet style), bucket raffles, silent and live auctions, all in a beautiful, ranch environment.

We are also happy to report that TVR was gracious enough to offer the same price as 2014, which means that we can pass on the savings to you!! Tickets will be \$45 each and we will provide a discount to anyone purchasing a full table of eight or ten.

We are excited to announce that our guest speaker will be Chris Wood, President and CEO of TU National. We are extremely thankful to him for making the trip to Arizona and share his time with us.

Tickets will be available at our very next member meeting which will be October 7, 2015. Once we have additional information on table ticket prices we will email our members. We are also trying to secure discounted overnight accommodations for those who wish to stay overnight....details to follow soon. Get your tickets early, they will be limited!

We are also looking for raffle donations for the banquet and your support will be greatly appreciated.

Kathleen Vitelli
OPTU Secretary

WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES

Women's Initiative (WI) is in need of a leader to provide support to OPTU women and to interact with the National TU Women's Initiative. Communication Team is in need of a person to add weekly bits of info to update the OPTU web page. Both of these roles require little commitment. Each should take about 3-4 hours a month, max.

Please contact Roseann Marsett if you're interested in helping. rzann@comcast.net.

TU.ORG WEBSITE FOR OPTU

The OPTU Website is at oldpueblo.tu.org. Do not use a www in front of the words.

Calendar

OCT 7 Regular meeting at the Viscount
- 6:30 pm - 4855 East Broadway, Tucson,
AZ, 85711. Speaker Mike Anderson,
Native Trout Program Coordinator for
Arizona Game and Fish. He will present
a program on the Gila Trout Recovery
Plan.

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

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

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

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

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

PROJECT HEALING WATERS FLY FISHING



We have finished our rod building classes. In Tucson, all rods (except for one, that was accidentally broken at the end of classes) were submitted to the manufacturer of the rod blanks, Hook and Hackle, for judging. We give special thanks to Bob Cobb for lending his expertise. Without his help we would not have had the success we did.

Aided by Joe Vitelli's thorough planning, we have just returned from a rewarding trip to the San Juan River. Soldiers from both Tucson and Sierra Vista participated. Some soldiers waded while others used drift boats. Our next trip will be to Alaska.

James Owen

TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM

A grant application for the purchase of TIC classroom equipment (tank, chiller, filter, etc) has been filed with the Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation. If the grant is approved, equipment will be purchased for all 13 new programs, delivered, and set up. Delivery of eyed trout eggs is expected in early September, and away we go! As always, if you have any interest in participating with this very worthwhile program, please give me a call.

Incidentally, the money granted by the ASFWC group comes from the "Conserving Wildlife" license plate program. There is a \$25/year up charge (an addition to your regular license plate fee) for this special plate, but \$17 of that \$25 comes right back to all manner of conservation-oriented groups in the form of grant money. If our grant application is approved, the cost of the TIC equipment for the 13 new schools, more that \$15,000 in all, will be provided by the ASFWC and the "Conservation Plate" program and not by the TU chapters. Information about the license plate program is on our web site, here: <http://oldpueblo.tu.org/oldpueblo/conservation-plates>. Please consider participating.

Steve Reiter

OPTU BOARD MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 2, 2015

IN ATTENDANCE

Steve Reiter, President	Robin Marsett, Conservation
Kathleen Vitelli, Secretary	Mick Fletcher, State Rep
Roseann Marsett, Treasurer	Bryan Eto
Joe Vitelli, Outings	Sheryl Eto
Joe Fagan, TIC	Paul Olsen

Meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m.

Treasurer's Report

A discussion took place regarding current signature requirements on checks over \$200 and a two signature requirement (two real signatures or one electronic and one actual). The board agreed that the amount needed to be raised to \$500, motion made by Roseann and seconded by Kathleen.

The proposed 2015-2016 budget draft as prepared by Roseann was reviewed by line item with a report of current funds standing as follows: Total Club funds including Savings (money market) and checking totaled \$17,273.86; Schwab Investment Funds: \$166,779.32; Schwab Money Market: \$20,000, with a combined total club funds value (as of 8/31/15) at: \$221,327.04.

Roseann indicated that the \$20,000 Schwab money market was earmarked for conservation, and a \$2500 EAS grant which was agreed will be used to assist AZGFD in installing temp loggers in the White Mountains with an additional possible project of purchasing shade panels to protect new Willow plantings along the designated stream. The current line item amount in conservation is planned for \$4,500 and may need to increase to \$5,500.

Kathleen indicated that the proposed budget for the 2016 fundraising banquet was \$5,000 and was not enough to cover the initial output of OPTU. The planned expense would need to be raised in line with the 2014 budget expenses of \$9,800 (including venue, food, bucket, raffle and auction items). Roseann will re-address this figure.

Steve discussed AZGFD's Trout in the Classroom initiative which will increase our Chapter area's schools by two additional, Santa Rita (high school) and Agua Caliente (4th grade). The state received grant money and will purchase equipment for all participating schools. Each school has to put up \$400 which OPTU will pay (\$800) plus operating expenses of approximately \$1500. Joe Fagan had already set up this program in Flowing Wells School, however that program was not moving forward.

Joe Vitelli motioned to continue support for Southern Arizona PHWFF by providing a \$1,000 donation for the 2014-2015 budget year and approving a donation of \$2,000 for 2015-2016. Motion seconded by Joe Fagan.

Outings Report

Joe Vitelli reported on the upcoming Cluff Ranch trip which is scheduled for 9/30 to 10/3/2015. There will be room for up to 14 attendees and will be a joint OPTU/PHWFF outing. Joe also announced that he will be resigning as Outings chair and this will be his last Board meeting.

2016 Fundraising Banquet

Kathleen brought up the previous Board discussions regarding ticket price which would be set at \$45. It was agreed that this price would stand and that tickets and posters would be ordered via TU National. Kathleen will contact TVR to inquire as to room rate discounts.

Raffle donations were discussed along with preparing recognition plaques for those donors who significantly contribute to our fundraising program. The discussion of the PHWFF raffle item, the fly box, was discussed Robin suggested that we change the item to perhaps a Flag Box.

OPTU by-laws revisions/Evitts endowment

Major document changes to the OPTU Charter were sent to each member from Roseann, which were revised by Steve and Roseann. These documents include the By-Laws, Conservation Fund program and its Policies, Procedures, Review and Selection Process, and the Finance Committee Policies and Procedures.

Kathleen asked for an update as to the status of hiring an attorney to review our proposed legal documents as noted above. This was a matter previously discussed. Roseann advised that they determined an attorney was not necessary and that they have been working with TU National. Discussion took place with regard to greater member participation, which were set forth in the new draft documents. Additionally, the requirement of an annual meeting for the membership was discussed. Steve indicated that all documents should be reviewed by Board members and suggestions/comments be made.

Roseann indicated that she would like to have a barbecue in the fall for OPTU members.

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

ADDENDUM

As a result of discussions between Board members via email after this Board meeting, it was agreed per suggestion of Robin Marsett, that the endowment money left to the OPTU Chapter by Clay Evitts and placed in the Conservation Fund, be named in his memory. Thus, the Conservation Fund will be named "Clay Evitts Conservation Fund." The vote was 11 in favor and 1 dissenting.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Vitelli, OPTU Secretary

Upcoming Fishing Trips and Outings Reports

14th Annual San Juan, New Mexico Trip

Dates will be some Sunday to Friday in April 2016. If you are interested the cost should be about \$475 for all food, lodging, transportation, and fun. We may depart Saturday but not known yet (that would increase cost about \$35. Contact the editor at jemurphy51@me.com to sign up. Trip is limited to 6 people. Nonrefundable payment (unless a replacement can be found) won't be due till late February 2016.

Alaska Fishing Trip – September 2015

Your editor made his annual pilgrimage (14th) to the Kenai Peninsula in Alaska on September 11th for a week of fishing and a bit of work. Eleven anglers from around the country went to the lodge of Great Alaska Adventures in Sterling. Day 1 consisted of a trip to the Anchor River in search of Steelhead. The water was a bit on the low side but our group of 3 managed several steelies and some silver salmon (Coho). My highlight/lowlight was hooking a big steelhead and fighting it for over 5 minutes only to have it break off without ever seeing more than a dorsal fin. Unfortunately, considerable rain during the week blew out the steelhead rivers and another opportunity at them. The next 3 days and the last 2 days involved floating the upper Kenai River for rainbows and Dolly Varden. Each day we went to this part of the river the fishing got better and the fish landed bigger. Anglers from our group on the trips were averaging 50 to 100 fish per day without difficulty. Large Dollies and good-sized rainbows were fairly routine landings. Sore arms were commonplace and plenty of smiles were noted all round. My other day was spent powerboating the middle Kenai, which was fairly slow. This is the part of the river where big rainbows are commonly found, but not for us on this day. My son Patrick landed a silver on the fly on this trip (his second of the trip) along with the biggest rainbow of the day (perhaps 3 lbs).

I was able to fish with both my sons and my nephew from Hawaii during the trip. That, along with the plethora of fish on the upper river and the steelhead day, made for a wonderful experience. *The editor.*



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_mmcc=orvisemail-_-Art%20Of%20Fly%20Fishing%202-_-OI-_-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

Patagonia River Crampons (clip on to your rubber soled boots and cut down on slipping on slippery rocks. Originally \$199 and never used. \$50. Call 520-250-4083.

The following items are for sale for the estate of Gary Corsi. Fly rod, 2 piece Redington FSF 8’6” 4 weight, with Reel, Guide 5/6, and fly line; includes Orvis case for two rods with reels. \$220. Fly rod, 2 piece Redington RS 8’0” 3 weight, \$30. Call Steve Brown, 520 797-9250.

Simms G3 waders, size medium, used once, like new, \$225. Contact Rob @ 520-909-8588 or azflyfshr@comcast.net

I have ~26 old tackle boxes of antique fishing lures, flies, reels along with a huge bundle of rods. Some of the items date back to the 1800's. I started collecting old fishing tackle in the early 80's and stopped a couple of years ago. I decided it is time for it to go. If you are interested in seeing the items let me know. If you are interested in buying some you can get a really nice discount. Whitey 520 419 0686

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH STOCKING SCHEDULE

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

QUOTES AND JOKES

“Of all the hardware a fisherman carries with him to the stream, his timepiece is the least important.” *Paul Quinnet.*

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)

<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/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>

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/>

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>
