

OPTU NEWS

Old Pueblo Trout Unlimited

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings, Fellow OPTU'ers

The December meeting will be held at the home of Steve and Beverly Reiter, 4834 E. Bellevue St. (2 blocks north of Speedway, 2 blocks east of Swan) on Saturday, December 3. There will be a pot luck dinner with the main course and set-ups provided by Steve and Beverly. Bring your own beer, wine or soda and a dish to share.

Arrive between 4:30 and 5:00 p.m. Dinner will be served at 5:00 p.m. Please let us know if you'll be attending. RSVP to Steve or Beverly at 795-2388 (leave message) or by e-mail to sreiter4@cox.net.

I hope you can join us.

Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Steve Reiter, President

PROJECT HEALING WATERS

No report this month.

Jim Owen, Program Lead, PHWFF – Southern Arizona

Tips and Tricks

- Google “fly fishing tips and techniques” for hundreds of useful links.
- Check out the Orvis Fly Fishing Learning Center

FOR SALE

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

Fishing Section (license, rules, etc.): <https://www.azgfd.com/fishing>
Stocking Schedule: <https://www.azgfd.com/Fishing/StockSchedule>

CONSERVATION

We replaced the temperature monitors in both upper and lower Grant Creek in November. We will continue to monitor this stream in order to build a temperature model of a successful trout stream in Southeast Arizona. Some data was lost due to flooding and debris knocking two of the monitors off their mounting stacks. All loggers were recovered and a complete data set was collected due to the redundancy of more than one monitor per stream reach.

The data for the past year shows that upper Grant Creek and lower Grant Creek have similar temperature profiles. In upper Grant Creek, elevation greater than 8000ft, the maximum water temperature was 69 degrees in late July and the minimum temperature was 32 degrees reached in early February. The daily temperature spread was normally 15 degrees or less in the heat of the summer and 2 degrees in the coldest part of the winter. Lower Grant Creek, elevation 5900 feet showed similar results.

We will be placing temperature monitors in Frey Creek in December in order to expand our successful stream temperature profile.

The willow planting efforts on the West Fork of the Black River are still on for the spring but we are waiting for word from the Apache Sitgreaves Forest on details. The conversion of the lower 13 mile stretch of the West Fork Black River to Apache Trout is on hold. A problem has arisen in the hatcheries that supply these fish. Until that is resolved no further efforts will be undertaken. The lower West Fork of the Black River will remain a mixed bag sport fishery for the next year at least.

We are hoping to have work days on the West Fork of the Black River in support of the Forest service and Game and Fish. Once we have further information we will post it in the newsletter, on Facebook and in blast emails. *Robin Marsett*



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.

WEBSITE FOR OPTU

The OPTU Website is at oldpueblo.tu.org.

QUOTES AND JOKES

THE FOUR STAGES OF LIFE

- 1) You believe in Santa Claus.
- 2) You don't believe in Santa Claus.
- 3) You become Santa Claus.
- 4) You start to look like Santa Claus.

TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM

Things are going well for TIC in Southern AZ. All classroom equipment has been assembled and in operation for the past month or so. Students have been doing daily water quality tests to get familiar with testing and record-keeping. Each school received 100 eyed rainbow trout eggs on Wednesday, September 21, so now the program begins for real! Soon the eggs will hatch. Following that the alevins will absorb their egg sacks for about 2 or 3 weeks, and will begin to look more like fish. All the students are very excited to be participating in this program. Perhaps one, or more, will make a career out of something they were exposed to in TIC. I would call that a real win!

Fishing Reports

Your editor went to Silver Creek again in November with all the family. Both granddaughters landed fish with their new flyrods. Fishing was slower than October but still plenty of big trout. *Pictures on later page.*

Calendar

DEC 3 - Holiday Party at the Reiter House. See President's message for details.

DEC 7 No regular meeting

JAN 4 No regular meeting - Watch for information on an outing.

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

DRY CREEK OUTFITTERS: NEWS AND BARGAINS

Check out the new Simms Rogue Fleece Jackets at Dry Creek Outfitters - only \$89.95 each. Replace that old floating fly line that no longer floats too well. Dry Creek has the Rio In-Touch Fly Line Series in stock - they float high and shoot far. Also, we have generous inventories of breathable Simms waders (Freestone \$249.95, Headwaters \$349.95 & G3 \$499.95) and Simms & Redington wading boots. Many of us discover leaks in our old waders during our last summer outing. Why not replace those waders before your late season trip to the San Juan, Lee's Ferry, Silver Creek or wherever your secret spot flows? Lastly...I know that checking out the newest fly rods is almost as much fun as buying one. Our exceptional year of sales (we had the best August since we opened 17 years ago!!!) has enabled us to comfortably stock between 45 and 55 fly rods. If it's a premium fly rod you seek, check out the Sage X or Salt, the Scott Radian or Meridian or the Orvis Helios 2. We also have entry-level fly rods like the Sage Approach, the Redington Vapen, Hydrogen or Classic Trout or the Orvis Clearwater. Two fly rods that will not disappoint you are the Sage Pulse and the Orvis Recon. At half of the price of our premium fly rods, they might be the best value in the shop.

I would like to personally thank Joe Vitelli and Jim Owen for keeping the lights on while I was vacationing (and flyfishing!!) with my family for 2 weeks in October. These guys are so humble and selfless. We are very lucky to have them be a part of our flyfishing community here in Tucson.

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. *Eric*

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. 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*



Silver Creek Fun