OPTU NEWS

Old Pueblo Trout Unlimited

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings, Fellow OPTU'ers

** IMPORTANT: THERE WILL BE NO OCTOBER MEETING! **

Our next regular monthly meeting will be on Wednesday, November 2, at the Viscount Suite Hotel. There will be a speaker, but I have not received a commitment from him so please continue to monitor e-mails from OPTU or check the white board at Dry Creek for information.

The Annual Meeting and Election of Officers will be held at the home of Steve and Beverly Reiter in midtown, not too far from the Viscount. Format will be a potluck social event with a little business thrown in. Watch your e-mail for more information.

I am very happy to announce that the Arizona State Council of TU has been selected for the "Council Excellence Award" for 2016 by TU national. AZTU has been very active in the past few years and is being recognized for their efforts. Among the accomplishments: Initiated and has held the annual Native and Wild Trout Conference for the past 7 years; attendance and prestige has increased each year. Expanded Trout in the Classroom from 4 classrooms 3 years ago to 29 classrooms for 2016-2017. Has participated in and has been instrumental in influencing the direction of the Four Forest Restoration Initiative (4FRI) and the Long-term Experimental Management Plan (LTEMP) for the Colorado River below Glen Canyon Dam. Will host the TU Western Region Annual Meeting in Scottsdale in 2017.

I can also announce that Mike Anderson, who has been the Native Trout Program Coordinator for AZGFD for the past 5 years or so, has taken a new position in Montana effective immediately. Because a Statewide hiring freeze, his position will not be filled until sometime next year. Mike nominated OPTU for participation in the Partnership Waters Program for both Grant Creek and Frye Creek. He has been very active with all TU Chapters in Arizona on any issue or opportunity involving restoration of habitat and reintroduction of native trout into their historical range. His drive and passion will be missed.

I hope to see you at the November Meeting. Until then, GO FISHING! Both Frye Creek and Silver Creek open October 1. Catch and release fishing for native Gila trout in Frye Creek, and for BIG rainbows and Apaches in Silver Creek. Good Luck! Steve Reiter, President

PROJECT HEALING WATERS

This summer Project Healing Waters of Southern Arizona made our 7th annual trip to the Tangle Lakes Region, in the Denali Range, Alaska. We chose the Tangle River for the abundance of Grayling and the relatively shallow water. The river is frozen except for a few short months each year and as a result the fish are hungry and not particular about what you throw at them.

We can take a soldier who has never been fishing and expect him or her to catch at least 50 fish daily. Those who have been willing to fish 6 or 7 hours have been rewarded with a 100 fish day. Fishing with dry flies is easy and there are fish in line waiting for a chance to rise to your offering.

We offer our thanks to Jack and Nadine Johnson who provide us with lodging, food, boats and guides at no charge, and also to Violet who makes everything run smoothly. Nadine, because of her dedication to a wide range of organizations, is the only living person in who the Department of Interior has named an Alaskan mountain after.

I would also like to express my personal thanks to Joe Fagan, master fly tier who spends hours weekly in preparation for classes. We are very fortunate that this OPTU member and amazing man has enhanced our program with his skills and dedication. 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

There are two important developments to report at this time. First, Mike Anderson, the Native Fish Coordinator for Arizona Game and Fish is moving to Montana and second the NEPA has been completed for the willow planting in Thompson's Meadow on the west fork of the black river.

At this time there are no plans to replace Mike until the hiring freeze for the State is lifted. This may mean a bigger effort will be required from OPTU and other TU chapters to complete some of the projects he has started. Of particular note is the introduction of Gila Trout into Marijilda Creek on Mt Graham and the restocking of Apache Trout in the lower section of the West Fork of the Black River. We will work with Arizona Game and Fish to see what is needed to complete these projects and coordinate our efforts with them.

The willow planting on the West Fork of the Black River is currently scheduled to happen this spring. This project is being run by the Apache Sitgreaves National Forest and being coordinated through the Arizona TU State Council. We are in contact with the State Council and will work through them to provide volunteer support.

Further developments in conservation will be posted in the monthly newsletter and by blast email.

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 <u>oldpueblo.tu.org</u>. Do not use a www in front of the words.

QUOTES AND JOKES

Like red wine and white fish, watches and fishing don't go together. A watch tells you when to go home or go to work, not when to go fishing. If you see a fisherman cast, look at his watch, cast, look at his watch, land a fish, look at his watch, cast and look at his watch, you can pretty much figure he's got either a date in court or a bad marriage. *Paul Quinnett*

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!



Calendar

OCT 5 NO REGULAR MEETING
OCT 5 BOARD MEETING: 5:30 to
6:30 pm. Viscount Suites.

NOV 2 Regular meeting at the Viscount - 6:30 pm - 4855 East Broadway, Tucson, AZ, 85711. Speaker TBA

NOV 2 BOARD MEETING: 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Viscount Suites.

Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday September 7th, 2016; 5:30 - 6:30 pm; Viscount Suites

Present:

Steve Reiter Joe Fagan Robin Marsett Mickey Fletcher

Roseann Marsett Jim Owen Paul Olson (teleconference)

Call to Order by Steve Reiter followed by discussion on who will take the meeting notes since we have no Secretary. Robin Marsett volunteered.

Finance

August Financial Reports were emailed to all Board members. Discussed any open future expenses. Beach Fleishman invoice for the 990 Taxes has not been received (\$2,000-\$3,000), and the donation of \$250 to the food for the Oct Silver Creek event for PHWFF has not been invoiced yet. Steve mentioned that the stock losses from earlier have been recovered by the Fund. A motion was raised to remove the descriptor of "Conservation" in the Funds definition since the monies have no legal requirement to be spent only on conservation. This was seconded by Mickey and passed by all. It will now just be called the Evitts Fund. All of our Documents will be changed to reflect this.

Discussed the draft 2017 Budget which was published for comments on 6/7/16. Joe Fagan voiced the question of why PHWFF was only \$500. Roseann and Steve responded that no amount was put forward in May and June to be included in the budget and we put in the \$500 as the minimum. Joe asked if he was there for that meeting and we responded that yes, he was. Jim Owen asked who received the draft budget and who was informed that it was being discussed in May/June. The Board responded that all Board members were informed and provided input. PHWFF currently has no representation on the board and therefore misses information. Jim and Joe then brought up the \$2,000 funding provided for our current FY and stated that the board voted on that amount for every year. PHWFF received \$2,000 for 2016 and while this was approved last year our budget needs to be reviewed and approved for each FY. It was also brought up in May that we don't have the funds or the authority to assign an amount for the future. Every program that works through OPTU has to present its budget request each year. This is true for TIC, Conservation, WI, Youth, Fund Raising and PHWFF. Steve stated, "bring up a request, tell us what it's for and the board with vote on it". Further available funds can be added to the budget as needs change. Jim and Joe then asked about the conflict of the PHWFF fly tying and the monthly OPTU meeting. Robin stated that except for a few extenuating circumstances it has always been that way. OPTU supports PHWFF and PHWFF should support OPTU. With only 6 meetings per year the resolution of this needs to be discussed between the Board and PHWFF Lead.

TIC requested additional items since State requested \$200 per classroom. We have 4 classrooms this year. Steve requested an increase in this area of the budget. TIC was removed from the budget last year but Steve has taken it over for this year so this item needs to be added to the Budget.

Roseann requested \$2,000 to cover 2 teens for Trout Camp for next summer. The Board unanimously approved but this lead to further discussion on doing our own youth camp or doing one with State. Roseann will talk to State Council and see if this is a viable alternative. Since it will not happen until next summer there is time to plan and discuss.

Continued on next page

The discussion ended with a plan to update the 2016-2017 Budget and send it to the Board members for approval.

Volunteer Hours

We need to turn in our volunteer hours to TU National by the end of September. We need them sent to us by the 23rd so we can collate and complete the report. Please send them to Roseann by the 23rd. They should include all hours by all volunteers for PHWFF, TIC, Board, Conservation, Banquet and Communication.

Annual Meeting - Planning

The Board discussed changing the monthly meetings to every other month so fishing trips could be included for the general membership. The Board decided that Sep, Nov, Dec, Feb and Apr would be the meeting months with the Dec meeting being the annual meeting with election of officers. This motion was raised, seconded and approved by all present. The President and Secretary positions will be open for next FY and will be elected at this meeting. Food will not be provided as last year there was a lot of food left over. The meeting is scheduled for Dec 7th at the Viscount Suites.

TU National Meeting in Bozeman MT

Robin will be attending the meeting as a State Board member. Mickey has not determined whether he will attend or not. State Council will pay for Robin and Mickey's Registration Fee.

Conservation & TIC

Steve briefly discussed TIC, Robin discussed Conservation and Jim discussed PHWFF trips in Oct and Nov.

Discussions and New Topics

The need for new members and new participation was discussed. Mickey will talk to Nan about the possibility of the WI position. Steve will talk to Bill McGee about at large Board Position. Providing Free Fly Fishing Clinics for Women and for Men was discussed and approved as a way to reach out to new members. This item will need to be added to the budget also. Details will be further defined at the next Board meeting. Alternate month outings were discussed. Each outing should have a Champion who will lead the trip – no Champion, no trip. The first trip is in November. Robin Marsett volunteered to be that Trip Lead. However, this time frame doesn't work with the new meeting schedule so Robin will work it and get back to the board. Winter and Spring trips are TBD. Trips are day trips with the possibility of overnight trips if a lead is willing.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:35pm.

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*







Mickey and Rio Grande Cutthroat

Rio Grande Cutthroat



Brookie on Cunningham Creek



Marsett on the Lower Cunningham



Cuttie on Cunningham Creek