

OPTU NEWS

Old Pueblo Trout Unlimited

Volume 25, Issue 5

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Fellow OPTU'ers

AS we prepare for the summer hiatus for OPTU and the inevitable exodus to cooler climes I want to take this opportunity to talk about the Chapter and what we are doing. Most importantly, we are expanding our social activities as well as our conservation efforts.

We continue to hold monthly Lie N Ties at Dry Creek outfitters on the third Tuesday of each month. participation has been quite good. Joe Fagan is the lead on this; if you have any questions or would like to lead a session please contact him. jfaganfished@gmail.com (520) 730-6398.

We use to have a retirees' trip every year but have not for several years. We are, therefore, attempting to restart the program. We are planning a retirees' trip in November to Becker Lake. This is a no host affair. If you are interested contact Joe Fagan.

Several people have expressed a desire to restart our annual or biannual banquet. This is a way for OPTU to socialize as a group. Our hope is to make it an affair that does not concentrate on fund raising but as an opportunity to get together and relax. We plan to have a few auction items and perhaps a speaker. It is early days so much is yet to be decided. One important issue is a banquet chair. If anyone is interested in being the chairperson for this effort or in assisting in general please contact me.

We are also considering two other fishing outings at this time. We hope to do another trip to Cluff Ranch over the winter and maybe Lee's Ferry in March or April. We will keep you posted on these.

Conservation efforts are picking up. With the completion of the NEPA process for Thompson's Meadow we are back in business on the West Fork of the Black River. We are currently working on a schedule for enclosure building and willow planting. As soon as these dates are confirmed Clay Hernandez will get the word out. His contact information is (520) 248-6954 clay@clayhernandez.com.

We will also be assisting the Forest Service and AZ Department of Game and Fish by downloading temperature data from some of the streams in the Apache Sitgreaves Forest. The data download will take place before and after the monsoon. Please contact Clay Hernandez if you can help.

There is going to be a very large (post Wallow Fire) restoration effort in the Black River area in the future. The NEPA process is underway. When it is completed there will be lots for us to do to assist in this effort. It is critical for trout habitat that the watershed be healthy. We will keep everyone informed.

On a final note, during the Western Regional Rendezvous for Trout Unlimited it was pointed out that there is movement afoot to transfer Federal Land ownership to the states. TU is opposed to this plan for several reasons not the least of which is that the states do not have the resources to manage the large holdings. I do not intend to take up a lot of space here on the debate but instead invite you to check out the following sites <http://www.tu.org/public-lands-action> <http://www.tu.org/press-releases/zinke-absolutely-against-transfer-or-sale-of-public-lands> <http://www.blogflyfish.com/2017/01/public-land-transfer-time-to-ac.html> <http://sportsmensaccess.org/public-lands-transfer-facts/> and finally from the CATO institute, a libertarian organization <https://www.cato.org/publications/policy-analysis/should-congress-transfer-federal-lands-states>. Have a good summer.

Tight Lines, *Robin*

NEXT SPEAKER

TROUT IN THE CLASSROOM

No report this month. *Steve Reiter, Youth Education Coordinator*

Tips and Tricks

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

FOR SALE

Patagonia ultralight river crampons - never used. New \$199, for sale \$50. Call John 520-250-4083 <http://www.backcountry.com/patagonia-river-crampon?http://www.patagonia.com/product/ultralight-river-crampons/79196.html>

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH

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

UPCOMING FISHING TRIPS AND MEMBER OUTINGS

San Juan 2018

The 16th Annual OPTU San Juan fishing trip will be sometime in 2018. Keep an eye on the newsletter for details.

FISHING REPORTS

No reports from the masses.

Conservation work



Lie 'n Tie

Lie 'n Tie

A monthly session of Lie 'n Tie is on the third Tuesday of each month. It is being held at Eric Loeffler's Dry Creek Outfitters fly-shop (NE corner of Craycroft and River, SE corner of the little shopping center). We will be setting up equipment and materials at 5:30 PM and start fly-tying at 6:00 PM sharp – ending 8:00 – 8:30 PM.

Tiers of all abilities are welcome, because experienced tiers will assist less experienced. Materials will be provided, though tiers should have their own fly-tying tools and at least some tying thread (usually black).

Teachers will generally be volunteers from our local fly-tying community. Suggestions from participants are welcome as to who will be scheduled to tie each month. Also, requests are welcome for specific flies, though we will not have time to tie fancy salmon flies.

For the May 16th session, Gilbert Castillo will show how to tie the “Peacock Lady” and “Reservoir Whore” patterns.

Space is limited so show up on time to get a place to tie flies with us. OPTU members and friends are welcome to participate.

For suggestions of fly patterns and/or instructors, please contact Joe Fagan, 520-730-6398, JFaganFishEd@gmail.com. Space is limited so show up on time to get a place to tie flies with us. OPTU members and friends are welcome to participate.

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PROJECT HEALING WATERS

Jim Owen, Program Lead, PHWFF – Southern Arizona

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. Do not use a www in front of the words.

QUOTES AND JOKES

CONSERVATION

See President Marsett's message.



Calendar

MAY 3 Regular meeting at the Viscount - 6:30 pm - 4855 East Broadway, Tucson, AZ, 85711. Speakers: Brad Powell and Scott Garlid, "Southwest Native Trout Initiative – Present, Near-Term, and Long-Term Plans"

MAY 3 BOARD MEETING: 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Viscount Suites.

MAY 16 Lie and Tie - 6 pm at Dry Creek Outfitters

SUMMER - Go fishing and send in your stories and pictures

DRY CREEK OUTFITTERS: NEWS AND BARGAINS

Make 2017 the year you organized all your fly-fishing accessories. Check out the following tackle bags at Dry Creek Outfitters: The Fishpond Castaway Roll-Top Gear Bag, the Fishpond Big Horn Kit Bag, Fishpond Cloudburst Gear Bag, Simms Headwaters Tackle Bag, Orvis Waterproof Boat Bag...to name a few. It's amazing how much more quickly you're able to start fishing when your reels, spools, tools and fly boxes are well organized. Make sure your fly lines are in good shape. Floating fly lines eventually begin to lose their buoyancy, which will have a profoundly negative influence on your ability to mend line. Remember...floating and sink-tip fly lines for rivers. For lakes, floating and full-sink fly lines are the ticket. Lastly, make an effort to shield your arms from harmful UV rays by wearing some of the new, lightweight fly-casting shirts from Simms and Orvis. We are fully stocked with several styles and color choices. See you soon.

Our exceptional year of sales 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.

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 6 pm. 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*

