



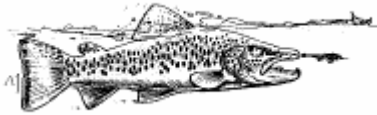
OPTU NEWS



VOLUME 14 ISSUE 11

TO CONSERVE, PROTECT, AND RESTORE NORTH AMERICA'S
COLDWATER FISHERIES AND THEIR WATERSHEDS

NOVEMBER 2006



President's Message

Greetings Fellow TUers:

The fall fishing is starting out good for me; at least in the streams of the White Mountains. Got into some nice brown trout action on both the Little Colorado and West Fork of the Black (not above the barriers). The Sheeps Crossing area of the WF Little Colorado is still closed due to road work. In fact the 273 road that goes from Sunrise to Lee Valley is closed. You need to travel the 261 road from Eagar to Crescent Lake. I am hearing good reports from Big Lake and Carnero Lake if lakes are your pleasure. Don't pass up Silver Creek this year either.

Our Family Outing to Deadhorse Ranch on November 9-12 is fast approaching. So far I only have 21 confirmed campers with 9 vehicles. We have 46 spots reserved. Remember if you plan to attend please RSVP to me so I can have a good count on Saturday's BBQ and set aside a campsite for you. Nearby Oak Creek is already fishing well and if you've never taken the Verde River Train Excursion you should plan on doing that.

Our Holiday party is fast approaching as well. It will be held this year again at John Singley's home. Directions are in the Newsletter. The party will be catered this year featuring Mexican food. Soft drinks will also be provided. If you drink preference is alcohol, please bring your own. Elections will be held at this annual get together and there will be a raffle. This will be your last chance to purchase banquet tickets at the base rate. After this party Banquet tickets will go up in price. Our Banquet will be held on February 24, 2007. This is our big fund-raiser for the year which enables us to do Apache and Gila Trout restoration, send kids to TU Trout Camp in Michigan, have a nice meeting place and speakers for our meetings. Even if you can't attend the banquet please consider making a small

donation toward this fundraiser. For more information on this please contact me at 520-744-8799.

Over the course of the next few weeks my plate is full; I will be heading down to Mexico for my first (this is unusual) saltwater flyfishing trip of 2006. Hopefully it will be a good one. I will then be heading to Durango for some more much needed Brown trout fishing. Then it will be time for the Family outing which I hope to share the company of many of you. My plans for next year already include a week in Traverse City, Michigan (I'm attending a wedding; right!) in June, Alaska in September (an upcoming Chapter trip, maybe a new retirees trip), Idaho Cutthroats in July (my oldest son lives there), and maybe some bonefishing in Hawaii (my youngest son lives there). It's good to have an excuse to go to these places; it sort of confirms the trip. Now I just need to get TEP to expand their vacation policy.

Fish to Live and Live to Fish,
Jeff Collins
President/Conservation Officer

HOLIDAY PARTY – DECEMBER 2ND

The holiday party will be on December 2nd at the Singley's place. It will start at 6:30 with dinner being served at 7. We are doing it different this year as the dinner will be a catered, Mexican menu. The club will be providing the dinner, soft drinks and mixers. BYOB on adult beverages. Since this will be a catered dinner we need to have a count on who will be coming at least a week before the dinner. Please call John @ 318-4791 and tell how many will be coming. Leave a message if no answer. NOW IS NOT TOO SOON. For those who haven't been to the Singley's it is at 3461 N. Wilson, 1 block South of Prince and two blocks East of Campbell (or 2 blocks west of Tucson Blvd.); on the SW corner of Greenlee and Wilson.

Found Items

I picked up a pair of float tube fins at the end of Wrinklneck this year and don't know the rightful owner. They are the "kickers" that fit OVER the boot and they have red laces. If anyone knows who lost them please have them call me. *Jim Maina 465-3774*

Old Pueblo Chapter of Trout Unlimited (OPTU)

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OPTU

c/o Jeff Collins

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Sculpin

LIE & TIE

7 p.m. on November 15th at Dry Creek Outfitters, 5420 E. Broadway, Suite 254. Call Eric at 326-7847 for more information. If any one has special flies they would like to have tied at Lie and Tie please contact John Kuebler at 885-5652 and he will do his best to accommodate your request

GUEST SPEAKER

On November 1st the speaker will be John Singley who will give a presentation on the 2006 Fall Retirees Trip.

Sheraton Tucson at 5151 E. Grant Rd (NE corner of Grant and Rosemont) – 7 pm.



OPTU's Save the Natives – Apache Trout

TU Bring Back the Natives Contacts

Amy Harrig, TU-BLM BBN Coordinator (303) 440-2937
e-mail: aharrig@tu.org

Fred Rasmussen Regional Vice President for the Southern Rockies (Region 8) salmo@snobol4.com

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(801) 524-3945 e-mail: tudtrout@aol.com

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(303) 837-9383 e-mail: dnickum@tu.org

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Jamie Hunter, So. California TU Council Representative
Little Kern River & Volcanic Golden/Paiute Cutthroat (CA)
(949) 493-2298

Mike Norte, Rio Grande Chapter– *Rio Grande Cutthroat/ Gila Trout (NM/CO)* (505)844-0935 e-mail: norte@earthlink.net

Jim Lynch, Old Pueblo Chapter – *Apache Trout (Arizona)*
(520) 742-7708

The Old Pueblo Chapter of Trout Unlimited publishes OPTU News monthly.





CONSERVATION

Grassroots Activist Network

At the center of TU's efforts to raise the profile of coldwater conservation is the **Grassroots Activist Network** – TU members who have volunteered to contact their members of Congress, Governors, members of state legislatures and natural resource agencies on issues of importance to trout and salmon. Grassroots Activists receive brief summaries or *Action Alerts* of issues pending before government decision-makers that could harm or help coldwater fisheries, and guidance on how to be an effective voice for trout and salmon.

As we work to protect fish and their waters, we need your support and involvement to carry the conservationist message. To join the Grassroots Activist Network, please send an email containing your mailing address to grassrootsactivist@tu.org

Volunteering – AZ Game & Fish Sport Fishing Program

Email Titus Piper (fishedaz@earthlink.net) with your name, address and zip code to receive a volunteer packet from Game and Fish. For members without email call 622-9597. After completing the packet, go to G&F to get fingerprinted, then send the packet to Phoenix. After a background check you will receive a calendar of events.

TROUT UNLIMITED – OPTU Chapter

2007 ANNUAL BANQUET – February 24th

Sheraton Tucson Hotel – 5:30 pm to ~ 9:30 pm

Please send me _____ tickets for the 2007 Old Pueblo Chapter Trout Unlimited Banquet. I have enclosed \$40 if postmarked before Dec 15th; \$50 if after Dec 15th and at the door.

I can't make it to the Banquet, but want to support the Old Pueblo Chapter. My donation for \$_____ is enclosed.

Cash Check MC VISA (please circle payment type)

Acct. # _____

Exp. Date ____/____/____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Mail this form to: Lauren Lucas, 7698 N. Sombrero Peak Drive, Tucson, AZ 85743

Miscellany

SHARING YOUR FISHING WITH OPTU MEMBERS

Would you be willing to provide a fishing slideshow and discussion at an upcoming OPTU meeting? We are looking for speakers who have power point or slides and stories to tell. *We have the equipment for showing.* If interested please contact John Murphy at murphy@pharmacy.arizona.edu to set up a month.

Upcoming monthly events

January – Julie Meka of Arizona Game and Fish on Apache and Gila Trout Recovery

A BARGAIN! - If you are over 70 and have lived in Arizona for 25 consecutive years, you can get a Pioneer Fishing License - free for lifetime! Go to the Game & Fish office at 555 N Greasewood Road. Their phone is 628-5376. *Clay Evitts*

Photos

Send in photos to the editor if you would like them in the newsletter - preferably by e-mail. This is important if you tire of seeing the editor's family, friends and pets featured.

Fishing Reports

Harold Wright of Sun City decided to cast just one more time while fishing at Willow Springs Lake on Friday, Sept. 29, and caught the fish of a lifetime: a new state record 15.6-pound, 32.5-inch rainbow trout. Wright's fish shatters the previous state record rainbow weighing 12.3 pounds caught from Tempe Town Lake in 2002. *Picture and story from the Arizona Game and Fish website*



Alaska 2006

I returned from an amazing 10 day trip to the Great Alaska Adventure Lodge on the Kenai Peninsula a few weeks ago (Sept. 14 to 23). As some of you know, my son Cullen works as a guide at the Lodge and I run continuing education sessions for pharmacists and physicians up there each September (non health professionals are also welcome of course). This was an especially amazing year, though they are always awesome. It was a year of the pink salmon and the place we usually fish, the middle Kenai, was overwhelmed by an unbelievable number this year. Pinks love to hit fly patterns after spawning (or anytime for that matter) and their real eggs were everywhere. So, we ended up only fishing one day on the middle Kenai because the Bows were focusing on the real thing and you could barely get by spawned out Pinks. Not to worry though, the upper Kenai was on fire (the pinks don't tend to go up that high in the river). We caught so many beautiful Dolly Varden and rainbows that my wrist was in agony. I was well into my backing on many occasions and the fishing was fast and furious. I also had two great steelhead days on Deep Creek landing 6 of 11 one day and 5 of 10 the next. A number of our members who have fished Deep Creek in the past will have fond memories. Can't wait to go back to the last frontier September 2007. *The Editor*



Male Dolly Varden in spawning colors – Upper Kenai, AK

To the OPTU Board,

Last February at the OPTU banquet my lovely wife, Roseann purchased a two day two person guided fishing trip with Duranglers of Durango, Colorado as a gift for me. Working with Tom Knopick, the owner of Duranglers and Doug Buck a Duranglers guide, well known in Tucson, I arranged to go in late June and was joined by my son-in-law Scott.

When asked by Tom and Doug what I wanted to fish I told them it was their call. We would rely on them.

On the first day Doug took us to the Dolores River just below McPhee Reservoir. Doug went out of his way to ensure we had a successful day of fishing and taught Scott, a novice, a great deal about the sport. On one of his first casts Scott hooked into a very nice fish that soon broke off. Now he was hooked. During the day we hooked several nice rainbows, browns and cutthroats ranging from twelve to eighteen inches.

On the second day we were taken on a float trip of the Animas by Tom. Once again he was very helpful and went the

extra mile to insure we had a good day. He also spent a lot of effort working with Scott teaching him the ropes. We caught several rainbows, browns, and cutthroats ranging from 14 to 17 inches and had a few notable break offs by fish we never saw.

I want to thank my wife for bidding on and winning the trip, OPTU for offering it and Duranglers for providing such skilled and helpful service. Tom and Doug truly provided us with an unforgettable experience. My son-in-law Scott had a ball and didn't stop talking about the trip for a week.

I look forward to another enjoyable night at the upcoming OPTU Banquet. *Robin Marsett*

Upcoming Fishing Trips

To suggest new trips Contact Rob Gillette at 615-8141) or robgillette@comcast.net or azflyfshr@comcast.net for more information.

OPTU's Family Outing is scheduled for November 9th through the 13th. **Please call Jeff Collins** at 403-4062 to let him know you are coming and how many people will be with you. Leave a message if no answer.

Site is Deadhorse Ranch State Park near Cottonwood. It will be a beautiful fall weekend. For info on the park visit www.azstateparks.com/parks/parkhtml/deadhorse.html.

The trip is open to club members and guests. Bring the entire family. Directions:

I-10 through Phoenix to I-17. From I-17 take (exit 287) Hwy 260 to Cottonwood. Hwy. 260 intersects with 89A/Main Street. Left on Main Street to North 10th Street. Right (north) on North 10th Street. Continue on North 10th across the Verde River Bridge to park entrance.

Park Facilities:

- Campsites with electricity, water, picnic tables, and grills
- Dump Station
- Restroom facilities with hot showers
- Ramadas for individual and group use
- Verde River and fishing lagoons stocked periodically
- Trails for hiking, biking, equestrian use
- Horse corrals available for overnight use
- Verde River Greenway Natural Area
- Verde River Train Excursion
- Sedona Shopping

San Juan 2007 – Tentative dates March 10-13. Anticipated cost approximately \$300/person

Lees Ferry If you are interested in going to Lees Ferry contact Rob and let him know when you'd like to go. With enough interest, a trip could be arranged.

Rebates for Chapter New Members

Renewal Rebates for New Members TU National gives rebates to chapters for new members. If you know of someone wanting to become a new member of TU, have them put chapter #531 on their application. This will help us receive the rebate. Thanks for your support.

OPTU Website and Newsletter By E-Mail

If you have access to a computer and e-mail help us reduce mailing costs by getting the Newsletter electronically. Just e-mail murphy@pharmacy.arizona.edu & cc: sreiter4@cox.net, Subject: e-mail newsletter. Give your name, the zip code where you

normally receive the printed version and the [e-mail address](#) where you want to receive the electronic version. **Note – it will be your responsibility to inform us of changes in e-mail address. Otherwise, you may begin missing newsletters.** The newsletter is available on our OPTU website www.optu.org.



Deep Creek Steelhead

Notes from the Flyshops

Tightlines will host a presentation by Peter Pereira Mullins, manager of the Aurelia Lodge in Teirra del Fuego, Argentina on Thursday, Nov. 16th at 7 pm. Peter will present a slide show of their world-class sea run brown trout fishing, refreshments and food will be available. Some of our anglers who have stayed with Peter will be there to answer questions as well. Contact Rod or Todd at Tightlines Flyfishing, 4444 E. Grant if you wish to attend - 322-9444.

Dry Creek Outfitters Check out the Sage Z-Axis Fly rods that are a step up from the XP. We have the Sage Pro Shirt, a premium quick drying casting shirt for \$50. Also see our inventory of Dyna King, Renzetti and Regal fly tying vises. The 6th Annual Orvis Flyfishing Expo will be held at Dry Creek on Saturday, Dec. 9th from 10am to 5pm. Hutch Hutchinson will give casting instruction/demonstrations and will present a slideshow on saltwater flyfishing in Costa Rica. Don't miss John and Cullen Murphy's slideshows on their New Zealand and Alaska flyfishing adventures. This is a great event for the beginner enthusiast to obtain free instruction and also for those looking for more advanced assistance. Flycasting contests with prizes, complimentary food and refreshments.

Humor/Quotes

A new member of OPTU, Hawkeye has provided this interesting story. We look forward to more humorous insight.

A Lovely Pool to Fish In - By Hawkeye Richardson

As you probably know, fly fishers love to sit around the fire and tell stories. These stories tend to get better, and the fish that are caught tend to get bigger, with each retelling of the story. Here is one of my favorites.

A few years ago, I vacationed at a fishing "dude" ranch. It is a place where there are lots of things for the entire family to do in addition to fishing. One afternoon I was sitting on the deck outside my room when I noticed another of the guests. He was fishing in a small pool of water very close to the cabins.

As I watched him fish, he seemed to be fairly accomplished. His casting was smooth and accurate. His presentation was light, yet crisp. And, if nothing else, he was certainly dressed and outfitted like and he knew what he was doing. Unfortunately, he wasn't catching anything.

After watching this gentleman for about a half-hour, I decided that I would see if I could help him. I walked over and introduced myself and after engaging in some friendly chitchat, I asked how he was doing. He responded that he had been fishing for over two hours and hadn't even had a strike. He went on to say that he lived back East and had taken up fly-fishing a couple of years ago. He felt that he was starting to become pretty good at it and had decided to take a trip out West to challenge himself to some different fishing situations.

He said that he had been looking forward to coming to this fishing "dude" ranch because the brochure had promised excellent, yet challenging fishing in the private waters of the ranch. He had been particularly taken by the statements in the brochure as to how clear the water was, how well camouflaged the fish were – making them difficult to see, and how finicky the fish could be in requiring exactly the right fly and presentation. He admitted he was feeling pretty frustrated by his inability to see, let alone catch, a fish. The water was exceptionally clear, as the brochure had said it would be; yet, he still hadn't seen a fish.

Since I consider myself to be a pretty good fly-fishier, I took it upon myself to determine what my fellow angler was doing wrong and to help him catch some fish. After quickly evaluating the situation, I asked him a very important question:

"Are you aware you're fishing in the swimming pool?"

Now you might wonder how an intelligent, grown person could be so stupid as to try to catch fish out of the ranch's concrete swimming pool. Surprisingly, his response was a lot more logical than I expected. He said that when he had arrived at the ranch late in the afternoon the previous day, he had noticed one of the ranch's fishing guides working with one of the guests. He had seen them fishing in this pool. He had thought to himself that it seemed a little funny that the ranch would stock a swimming pool, but, since he had never been to a "dude" ranch before, he figured that maybe it was the way they let the guests practice on some "tame" fish before heading out to the real fishing on the lakes and streams of the ranch.

I told him that the guides often take inexperienced guests to the swimming pool to work with them on their casting techniques. I told him his technique was just fine and took him over to the stream that runs through the ranch. In no time he began catching fish.

Later, while feeling pleased and a little smug with myself for having helped this somewhat embarrassed angler, I noticed the head guide for the ranch strolling over to my cabin, apparently with a question on his mind.

"Hawkeye, was that you I saw fishing today at lake number three in the valley?"

"Yes. Why?"

"Didn't you know that we drained that lake last fall and that we haven't restocked it yet?"

A little embarrassed, I answered with a quick "No", grabbed my rod, and headed for the swimming pool.

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1/12 th page	NA	NA	\$50
1/4 page	\$50	\$100	\$175
1/2 page	\$75	\$200	\$350
Full page	\$100	\$350	\$600

- Gifts of \$500 or more cash equivalent for OPTU banquet waives 1-year fee for 1/12th page ads or single 1/4 page.

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- Enclosed is my employer's matching gift form, plus my membership application and payment.
 Please send me information on TU's Grassroots Activists Network.

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OPTU NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- Nov 1** Regular meeting: Speaker John Singley on the 2006 Fall Retirees Trip. **Sheraton Tucson at 5151 E. Grant Rd** (NE corner of Grant and Rosemont) at 7 pm.
- Nov 15** Lie & Tie – 7:00 pm at Dry Creek Outfitters, 5420 E. Broadway, Suite 254, Call Eric at 326-7847 for more information.
- Nov 22** Board Meeting at Sheraton Tucson, 5151 E. Grant Road, at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Dec 2** Holiday party at the Singley's – see first page of newsletter for details.
- Dec 20** Lie & Tie – 7:00 pm at Dry Creek Outfitters, 5420 E. Broadway, Suite 254, Call Eric at 326-7847 for more information.
- Dec 27** Board Meeting at Sheraton Tucson, 5151 E. Grant Road, at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited.
- Feb 24** Annual Banquet – at the Sheraton Tucson