



# OPTU NEWS

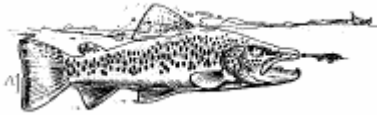


Old Pueblo Trout Unlimited Chapter  
(TU Chapter 531) [www.optu.org](http://www.optu.org)

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 10

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

OCTOBER 2007



## President's Message

### Greetings Fellow TUers:

In lieu of a president's report we have the following two postings from Joseph Fagan.

In honor of "National Hunting and Fishing Week" I was invited to participate in a



"Kids Night" last Friday as a member of *Trout Unlimited* and as a "Sport Fishing Educator" for the *Arizona Game and Fish Department* at a sporting goods store in Marana, Arizona. The owner of a fly shop in Tucson had loaned to me 4 vices and bobbins to allow some of the children a chance to tie some flies as I was demonstrating how to tie simple "wooly worms." You can see in the photo a small portion of the many children and parents that came to watch and tie flies.

I used a wood clamp to tie large flies so they could easily see some of the basic techniques in fly tying. I also used large scale materials to tie onto the big h00ks (size 12/0).

I was pleased to see one of the Science Olympiad students with her brother and mother at the demonstrations. They and other families wanted to know where to learn more. I directed them to where I tie flies regularly at one of the fly shops for free. The owner provides equipment and other "club" members provide materials and expertise to teach complicated flies to experienced tiers and simple flies to beginners.

During the evening staff of the *Arizona Game and Fish Department* were also teaching "Kids" to make spinning lures. Videos of interest were shown. (I didn't have an opportunity

to view what the videos were about.) Outside in the parking lot, the AZGFD had a modified tractor-trailer for a BB-gun shooting range to enable kids to shoot at targets. It was an enjoyable evening.

This past Wednesday, Jeff Collins, President of the Old Pueblo Chapter of *Trout Unlimited*, joined the class to help teach students. (He can be seen at the white board showing an aquatic insect he drew.) The Science Olympiad Class at Sahuarita Middle School in Arizona is participating in the program called "Trout in the Classroom."

Students finished dissecting fish during the first portion of the class. One of the students is shown studying the digestive tract in one of the fish. Stomach contents were investigated. Students were surprised to find a small, whole crab in one of the fish's stomach.

During the second portion of the class students had prepared during earlier classes in the week with Mrs. Sue Simpson, many questions to ask of Mr. Collins and myself. This was done in preparation for studying aquatic invertebrates in a sample of pond water that Mrs. Simpson, had collected and placed into a small aquarium for observation.

This coming Thursday students will collect specimens from the aquarium to identify, count, and categorize to determine the pristineness of the water by seeing what kind of invertebrates are living in the pond water sample. They will also study some of the micro-invertebrates using microscopes. Aquatic plants will also be identified, including microscopic algae.



Posted By Joseph Fagan

**Fish to Live and Live to Fish,  
Jeff Collins  
President/Conservation Officer  
Photography Contest**

We would like to hold a photography contest for OPTU members. Let's begin one with the next meeting. Bring a copy at least 5 x 7 or email it to John Murphy [murphy@pharmacy.arizona.edu](mailto:murphy@pharmacy.arizona.edu) for display onscreen or on our website. Three categories: Nature (no people), Fish without people, and "My favorite fish picture" (you and cool fish). Prizes will be determined later for the winners.

## Old Pueblo Chapter of Trout Unlimited (OPTU)

### President

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Jeff Collins See above for numbers

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Open

### Outings Coordinator

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### OPTU

c/o Jeff Collins

7698 N. Sombbrero Peak Dr

Tucson, AZ 85743



*Royal Coachman*

## LIE & TIE

7 p.m. on October 17<sup>th</sup> 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

Matt Cannon will speak about Tsiu River Silver Fishing. Matt has fished this river a number of years and will talk about getting there, the fishing, flies to use, etc. Sheraton Tucson at 5151 E. Grant Rd (NE corner of Grant and Rosemont) at 7 pm on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.



*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](mailto:aharrig@tu.org)

**Fred Rasmussen** Regional Vice President for the Southern Rockies (Region 8) [salmo@snobol4.com](mailto:salmo@snobol4.com)

**Don Duff**, TU-Forest Service Partnership Coordinator

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

**Dave Nickum**, Southern Rockies Conservation Director

*Greenback and Colorado River Cutthroat Trout (CO)*

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

**Paul Dremann**, Utah Council V.P. for Conservation

*Bonneville Cutthroat Trout (Utah/Nevada)* (801) 467-3862

e-mail: [pdremann@xmission.com](mailto:pdremann@xmission.com)

**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](mailto: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](mailto:grassrootsactivist@tu.org)



*Ernie's Bonefish*

### Joe Fagan needs volunteers for Sport Fishing Programs!

OPTU member, Joe Fagan, has recently been awarded the contract of *Sport Fishing Educator* for the Arizona Game and Fish Department. He is in need of a cadre of volunteers to assist him with various Fishing Programs in Tucson and other towns in southern Arizona. E-mail Joe ([JFaganFishEd@Gmail.com](mailto:JFaganFishEd@Gmail.com)), call him on his cell phone (520-730-6398), or speak to him at OPTU meetings. He can provide you with a volunteer packet to complete. The AZGFD office on Greasewood Road (across from Pima Community College) can do your fingerprints, essential for certified volunteers. The completed form and fingerprints

are sent to the AZGFD main offices in Phoenix. Then, calendars of Fishing Program events will be mailed to you. Joe can inform you of programs he'll be doing any time.

## 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 always 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](mailto:murphy@pharmacy.arizona.edu) to set up a month.

**A BARGAIN!** - If you are over 70, and have lived in Arizona for 25 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.

## Upcoming Speakers

November – Jeff Collins on his many travels.  
December – Holiday party

## Upcoming Fishing Trips

OPTU plans on the following trips in **2007**: Annual Family Outing, Fall Retirees Trip, and based upon interest one additional trip to either the San Juan or Lees Ferry. Don't forget there is fun fishing in southern Arizona's lakes. It's always a fun day of fishing with fellow OPTU members locally.

**San Juan 2008** – February 23 to 27, 2008. Trip limited to 13. Leave Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup> bright and early; stay at the Enchanted Hideaway Lodge. Fish Sun, Mon, Tues with return to Tucson Wed. Cost is estimated at \$325 (but will depend on prevailing fuel costs at the time), which includes round trip transportation, 4 nights lodging (2-3/rm – bring your earplugs), and food for all meals. **All** who come participate in food preparation and cleanup. Three drivers go for the cost of their gas or \$150, whichever is less. \$150 will hold your space. Cancellations within 3 wks of trip require deposit forfeiture unless another participant found. Contact John Murphy at [murphy@pharmacy.arizona.edu](mailto:murphy@pharmacy.arizona.edu) or 250-4083.

**To suggest new trips** Contact Rob Gillette at 615-8141) or [robgillette@comcast.net](mailto:robgillette@comcast.net) or [azflyfshr@comcast.net](mailto:azflyfshr@comcast.net) for more information.

## Fishing Reports

I just finished dinner. This repast started with Orange Poppy Seed dressing rather generously drizzled over mixed-

leaf lettuce. The main course was Chicken Tetrazinnie and half a box of Cruncheros [those are chicken and cheese taquitos]. Feeling comfortably full, but not totally satiated, I finished off the meal with a small can of peaches. I may, yet, see what is in the freezer for a nightcap snack in an hour or so.

It's hell being out here on the road by myself. Most men would blanch at the idea of having to cook. Me too. But, it is no problem as this RV has a micro wave oven. It is one of the few electrical devices that I can readily operate. And, knowing how to tell time reasonably well, I can pretty accurately set it to produce a steamy-hot finished product. "Warming", "thawing" and "holding a temperature" are all settings I have found completely unnecessary. I think they were added by the manufacturer just to show off.

I hiked into the North Platte River today after taking a completely unmarked access route to get there. [My new buddies at the fly shop told me where to go.] After three miles of two-wheeled track through sage brush, up and around several forested ridges, I found myself at the track's dead end. Just there a trail took off through the woods, down through a long draw. Going down and down, I realized the end of the day was going to be a test to get back up to my truck.

I waded up, filled a back pack with camera and lens, dog food, gortex jack [just in case], electronic collar for Peso, at least 3/4 pounds of trail mix, and 1 half gallon of water for me. Oh, and two fly rods [with my recent luck, I was wondering if two might be enough]. Wearing super light gortex chest waders, wading boots, a short-sleeved shirt, two fly rods and a back pack, and preceded by one excited dog, I headed into this designated wilderness area to fish the North Fork of the Platte River [Several of the access points into this wilderness were established by Curt Gowdy and his fly fishing chapter of Trout Unlimited]. Those of you too young to remember Curt Gowdy, disregard.

There is a great deal of filler that I could use to describe the day's fishing, but I lack the energy. It wasn't outstanding. I walked up stream, fishing as I went. After three hours of not finding fish, I finally saw what I think was the reason why. Actually, it was three reasons. There were three spin fishing twenty-something boys pounding the water with Panther-Martin spinners.

Twenty minutes after first sighting them, I caught up to them. They were finishing up, about to head out. I had seen their rig and hoped they elk hunters, not fishermen. Archery elk opened today. The three of them had managed to catch one very nice rainbow. It would probably feed 1½ of them for the evening's dinner. The kid I talked to told me he had spent the morning fly fishing with no luck before taking up his spinning rod. Yeah, right!

They were fishing legally. Artificial lures are allowed. I wasn't terribly disappointed running into others, but it would have been nice to have this remote section of the river to myself. I took some pictures, almost making the hauling of the camera and my two lenses worth it.

Peso had a great time, right up until he hit "the wall". This was probably due to the cold water and his non stop running. He, also, had to be in the river with me until he was nearly hypothermic. I fed him a fair amount of dog food, and he wisely decided to stay on the bank or a nearby rock after

that. It has taken several days of fishing, but I am reasonably confident that he will, from now on, let me fish without him swimming through the water I'm about to fish.

While I showered and ate dinner, Peso lay on the ground in front of the coach too tired to climb aboard. I took him a bowl of water and that energized him enough to get in, where he curled into a ball and promptly went to sleep. I'll bet he'll still be trying to drag my butt out of bed at 4:30 tomorrow morning. He stinks, and I would have shampooed him, but after watching him shiver all day, I didn't have the heart to chill him again. Maybe tomorrow.

The back of my truck is a shambles. I have fishing gear and clothing all over the place. My priority when I got back to the truck was the supermarket and a shower. Tomorrow morning will be soon enough to do a reorganization.

It's almost 9:30 and, surprisingly, I'm still awake. I think the exercise was good for me, although my legs currently feel like to columns of pudding.

Note: I know better than to go shopping for food when half starved. I did it anyway. I now have enough food in the fridge for awhile. *Sandy McClure reporting*

## 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](mailto:murphy@pharmacy.arizona.edu) & cc: [sreiter4@cox.net](mailto: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](http://www.optu.org).



*Steelhead Dreams*

## Humor/Quotes

### A FATHER'S FISHING SONG

(Adapted from and sung to the tune of "The Bowling Song" by Raffi)

I like to go fishing with my son Pat, fishing rod and a fishing hat,

I like to cast my fly up the stream – uh huh.

On a good day we'll get a few strikes, maybe some hook-ups, oh that's what we like,  
Fishing is our kind of fun.

We cast to the brook trout, the brown trout, cutthroats too, any trout down the line,

With a slurp and a splash they hit those flies, and we tighten our lines in time.

I like to go fishing with my son Pat, fishing rod and a fishing hat,

Fishing is our kind of fun.

Now friends, when you're having yourself one of those days when nothing seems to be going right, and you don't know what to do – you just feel dried out,

Well, don't despair,

Just head on down to your favorite river,

You're sure to find some trout swimming there – waiting for your next cast.

We cast to the rainbows, Apaches, the bull trout too, any trout down the line,

With a slurp and a splash they hit those flies, and we tighten our lines in time.

I like to go fishing with my son Pat, fishing rod and a fishing hat,

Fishing is our kind of fun.

The following is from [www.takemefishing.org](http://www.takemefishing.org)

Take me fishing.

Because I get the giggles when the boat bounces.

Take me fishing.

You can think about work later.

Take me fishing.

And show me that worms really aren't that icky.

Take me fishing.

Because my wedding will be sooner than you think.



*A nice Alaska Grayling*

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### Notes from the Flyshops

No notes this month.

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<u>Format</u>	<u>One time</u>	<u>6 months</u>	<u>1 Year</u>
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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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**Send to: OPTU, 7698 N. Sombrero Peak Dr, Tucson, AZ 85743**

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### **OPTU OCTOBER CALENDAR**

- Oct 3** Regular meeting: Speaker Matt Cannon on fishing the Tsiu River in Alaska for Silvers. Sheraton Tucson at 5151 E. Grant Rd (NE corner of Grant and Rosemont) at 7 pm.
- Oct 17** Lie & Tie – 7:00 pm at Dry Creek Outfitters, 5420 E. Broadway, Suite 254, Call Eric at 326-7847 for more information.
- Oct 24** Board Meeting at El Charro - Speedway and Swan at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited.

### ***UPCOMING EVENTS***

- Nov 3** Regular meeting: Speaker Jeff Collins  
Sheraton Tucson at 5151 E. Grant Rd (NE corner of Grant and Rosemont) at 7 pm.
- Nov 17** Lie & Tie – 7:00 pm at Dry Creek Outfitters, 5420 E. Broadway, Suite 254, Call Eric at 326-7847 for more information.
- Nov 24** Board Meeting at El Charro - Speedway and Swan at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited.
- Dec 7** Annual Holiday Party – Rob and Carol Gillette's place. No-host cocktails beginning at 6:30 pm to be followed by dinner