



OPTU NEWS

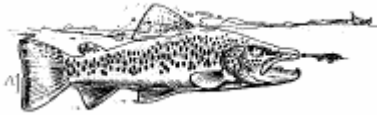


Old Pueblo Trout Unlimited Chapter
(TU Chapter 531) www.optu.org

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 12

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

DECEMBER 2007



President's Message

Greetings Fellow TUers:

Seasons Greetings. We hope your holidays are happy and healthy with your families and loved ones.

This is my first message as president of OPTU and I have some huge shoes to fill in taking over the position of president starting this month while immediate past-president Jeff Collins continues his work on behalf of Trout Unlimited on the State Council. As many of you know, based on our efforts with Jeff at the helm, OPTU was just awarded a conservation award by Arizona Game and Fish for work with the Apache Trout. All of our members that participated on the workdays, came to our monthly meetings where this work was discussed, or attended the banquets over the years that assisted us in funding some of this work, should be proud of what we have accomplished together. Jeff will continue to act as our conservation officer and as Vice President until someone volunteers, or fails to show up at a meeting or party and is nominated in their absence.

My goals for my time as President include three things:

1. Continue and increase our workday efforts around the State.

2. Increase the number of people involved in our group who are younger than I am.

3. Arrange it so the people who attend the Annual Banquet can call their friends the Sunday after the Banquet and say (insert name) "Where were you last night? Man did we have a great time at the OPTU banquet, I cleaned up! I don't think I have ever eaten so much and my spouse will never let me get into another bidding war in an auction again. Seriously it was a blast!" These and many other items will be the subject of my upcoming monthly messages.

As I think back on all the people who I greatly respect and admire, who have held this position, and taken care of OPTU and our charge of the rivers and fish in Arizona I feel fortunate. One of my favorite things to do in the White Mountains is to stop in the Meadow near Thompson's cabin on the West Fork of the Black River and look down at all the work done by our members on the stream. I always read the names of our members on the plaque, both past and present, some gone now, whose work before us made it possible to fish today.

I look forward to seeing you at the banquet and start getting ready for our workdays.

Clay Hernandez
President

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 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

Clay Hernandez (h) 520-529-4621
© 520-248-6954
email: czhernandez@comcast.net

Vice President

Volunteers requested

Secretary

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Treasurer

Lauren Lucas
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Open

Outings Coordinator

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Youth Education Coordinator

Steve Reiter (h) 520-795-2388
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Open

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Newsletter Editor

John Murphy (h) 520-299-3278
email: murphy@pharmacy.arizona.edu

OPTU

c/o Jeff Collins
7698 N. Sombbrero Peak Dr
Tucson, AZ 85743



Royal Coachman

LIE & TIE

7 p.m. on December 19th 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

No speaker this month. Come to the Holiday Party.



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

Don Duff, TU-Forest Service Partnership Coordinator (801) 524-3945 e-mail: tudtrout@aol.com

Dave Nickum, Southern Rockies Conservation Director *Greenback and Colorado River Cutthroat Trout (CO)* (303) 837-9383 e-mail: dnickum@tu.org

Paul Dremann, Utah Council V.P. for Conservation *Bonneville Cutthroat Trout (Utah/Nevada)* (801) 467-3862 e-mail: 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

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

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





Holiday Party Information

The OPTU Holiday Party will be held at Rob Gillette's and Carol Swanson's home on Friday evening, December 7th, starting at 6:30 pm. The party will include dinner, trivia contest, casting contest, raffle, and live auctions. OPTU will provide non-alcoholic beverages; other beverages are BYO. The casting contest will be to a target in the swimming pool with everyone using Rob's 4 wt rod. Practice casting will be permitted before the target is placed. Trivia contest details are being worked out. Rob and Carol's home is located at 4310 N. Placita de Susana, Tucson within the Bellas Catalinas subdivision. From River Road, go north on Alvernon Way one-half mile and turn left into the Bellas Catalinas subdivision. Proceed through the gate (**code 8399**), make the first left on to Placita de Susana, and our house is the second on the left. RSVP's are requested prior to December 1st. Call Rob at 615-8141 (hm) or 298-0203 (wk).



Enjoying Pena Blanca after a stocking in Winter

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

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), 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.

State Report from AZTU

We are continuing our Trout in the Classroom Project at Sahaurita Middle School. There are 8 dedicated students in a class of 25 who are doing water quality studies and keeping the tank in shape in preparation of the eggs which should be here any day now.

Be proud OPTU! We were voted by the Arizona Fish and Game Commissioners an Award of Excellence. A banquet held by AZGFD will be held in January with awards handed out.

AZTU is in talks with the US Forest Service Planning committee to help come up with new Five Year Forest plans and Transportation Plans throughout all six Forests in Arizona. Brad Powell, full time TU employee and member of AZTU is heading the efforts. We are working for your best interests in streams and lakes throughout the Arizona forests system.

This coming year, 2008, will bring workdays throughout the state on Apache Trout temperature monitoring, Gila Trout Blue River watershed temperature monitoring; this area of work has been reduced due to drought, fire, and a washout in Chitty Creek. We will also have work in the Pinaleno's (Mt. Graham) restoring pure populations of Apache and Gila Trout. We're also hoping to get contacts in Mexico to obtain Yaqui Trout for the Chiracahau's.

There is a group of TU National people to come to Tucson in December to work on mapping Apache Trout waters in a GIS system in which TU National is mapping all Native Trout throughout the country. You will be able to access Google Earth to find out the streams the Natives are thriving in. Most TUEs that I have met are trying to catch each species; this mapping will be very valuable for that.

We will also be having an AZTU meeting in December. If you're interested in statewide events you're more than welcome to attend. Thanks. *Jeff Collins, AZTU Council Chairman, Tucson, AZ 520-403-4062*

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 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

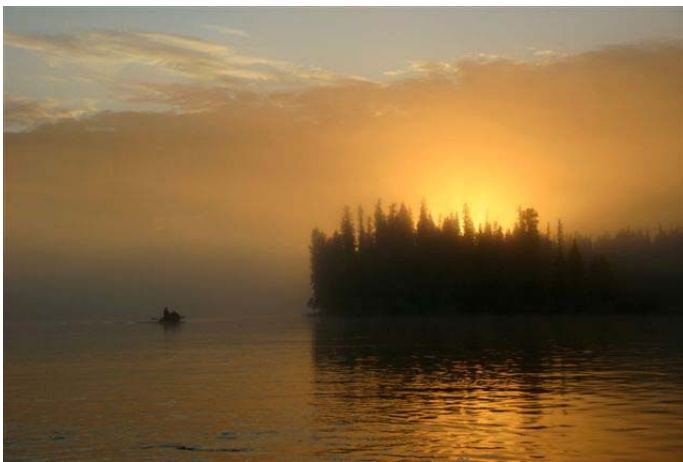
December – Holiday party

January – The "Retirees" Trip group will speak on their Alaska adventures on the Kenai peninsula and around Talkeetna.

February – TBA

March – Doug Buck on Fly Fishing the World

April – Jerry Estruth on fishing Kamchatka



Sunrise on the Kenai River, Alaska

Upcoming Fishing Trips

OPTU plans on the following trips in **2008**: 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. **Trip is full.** Contact John Murphy at 250-4083 or murphy@pharmacy.arizona.edu.

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

Fishing Reports

The Leaping Browns of the Middle Provo

In early October I had the luck to fish the Middle Provo River just outside of Park City. A friend joined me from Virginia and we spent a couple of days enjoying the fall weather and catching some nice browns. Though the aspens were finishing their change to a beautiful yellow, two of the days included a nice dump of snow. As usual, the fish were easiest to trick during the dicey weather and much harder on the clear day. We fished our way through two sections of the river and had a great time at both. At one particular deep run/pool, there were dozens of fish eating emergers that we couldn't quite figure out, and about every minute or so a brown would leap wildly into the air. These leaps often took them at least two feet out of the water. I had never seen browns jump like that (other than when on the end of my line) and was puzzled. I knew that trout sometimes left the water in pursuit of an emerging caddis but there wasn't really a caddis hatch going on (a few were around). I mentioned this phenomenon to one of my smarter fishing friends and he said that the browns were likely females "sorting" their eggs (separating them from clumps to singles by the impact) prior to spawning. Whatever the reason, it made for a most exciting and frustrating time as the wild display and obvious numbers of fish did not lead to significant numbers brought to the net. But, according to the cliché, that's why they call it fishing and not catching. *The Editor*

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.

FOR SALE or RENT

Health reasons are causing me to sell my fly fishing tackle. I have rods (3 wt to 9 wt) and reels to match. Will be selling tying equipment, fly boxes, flies, waders and many great fly fishing books (some autographed). I live in Green Valley, AZ, so call me 520-648-2813 for details or e-mail me jjackson78@cox.net. Items will be priced to sell and available for inspection by appointment or on December 1st and 2nd.



New Zealand Brown

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

TROUT UNLIMITED – OPTU Chapter

2008 ANNUAL BANQUET – February 16th

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

Please send me _____ tickets for the 2008 Old Pueblo Chapter Trout Unlimited Banquet. I have enclosed \$30 if postmarked before Jan 16th; \$40 if after Jan 16th 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

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.

Notes from the Flyshops

Dry Creek Outfitters

Did you receive any gifts during last year's holiday season that you have no use for? We have a suggestion... Give us a call (326-7847) and put your name in our holiday gift registry. Whether it's a Sage Xi2 9-weight fly rod or a spool of Orvis Mirage 5x tippet, your kids, spouse or friends will pick a gift that will put a smile on your face.

Saturday, December 8th: There will be a Flyfishing Expo on the 8th featuring Hutch Hutchinson from the Orvis Company. There will be free flycasting demonstrations, instruction and plenty of hot dogs. John Murphy will do a presentation on his Alaska 2007 trip – the year of the steelhead. We will raffle off a new Helios 905-4 fly rod. There are no other 5 weight fly rods on the market that are as lightweight as the Helios. Not even close! You will receive a chance in the raffle for each \$25 you spend at Dry Creek between now and 12/8. We will also sell raffle tickets for \$5 ea.

Dry Creek carries the best products in flyfishing, including Sage, Orvis, Redington, Winston and Temple Fork fly rods; Galvan, Ross, Abel, Orvis, Sage, Tibor, and Redington reels; and Simms and Orvis waders and boots. If you need something but don't have time to get to the shop, call us and we'll send an order to your home – free shipping. *Thank you for making our 8th year in business the best yet!*



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Advertising Rates - OPTU Newsletter - Published monthly - reaches over **450** flyfishing and outdoor enthusiasts. Unfortunately, ads for insurance, travel or credit cards can't be accepted due to postal requirements.

| <u>Format</u> | <u>One time</u> | <u>6 months</u> | <u>1 Year</u> |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 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.

**With Over 1.8 Million Miles of Trout Streams,
You Can See Why We Need New Members. How About Recruiting a Few?**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (day) _____ (Evening) _____

Occupation _____

Chapter _____

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

**SEND TO: Trout Unlimited
P.O. Box 7400
Wooley Bugger, WV 25438-7400**

Please check membership category*

- Regular (\$35)
 Family/contributor (\$50)
 Sponsor (\$100)
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Make checks payable to **TROUT UNLIMITED**

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Signature _____

Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.
 *Canadian membership – please add \$5 per year. All other countries add \$20 per year.

Moving?

Name _____ Phone _____ Old Zip Code _____

New Address _____ New Zip Code _____

Send to: OPTU, 7698 N. Sombrero Peak Dr, Tucson, AZ 85743

Notice: OPTU Newsletter is sent via bulk mail. It will not be forwarded if you move. You must notify us of any change in address. To avoid errors, please submit your change of address in writing.



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Old Pueblo Chapter 531
7698 Sombrero Peak Dr.
Tucson, AZ 85743

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OPTU DECEMBER CALENDAR

- Dec 5** **No regular meeting:** Come to the Holiday Party
- Dec 7** Annual Holiday Party – Rob Gillette and Carol Swanson’s place. No-host cocktails beginning at 6:30 pm to be followed by dinner and various contests of skill
- Dec 19** Lie & Tie – 7:00 pm at Dry Creek Outfitters, 5420 E. Broadway, Suite 254, Call Eric at 326-7847 for more information.
- Dec 26** Board Meeting at El Charro - Speedway and Swan at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan 2** Regular meeting: The Alaska “Retirees” Trip group will speak on their adventures on the Kenai peninsula and around Talkeetna. Sheraton Tucson at 5151 E. Grant Rd (NE corner of Grant and Rosemont) at 7 pm.
- Jan 16** Lie & Tie – 7:00 pm at Dry Creek Outfitters, 5420 E. Broadway, Suite 254, Call Eric at 326-7847 for more information.
- Jan 23** Board Meeting at El Charro - Speedway and Swan at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited.