



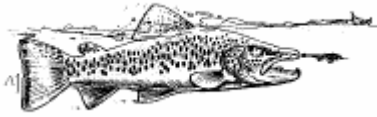
OPTU NEWS



VOLUME 16 ISSUE 5

Old Pueblo Trout Unlimited Chapter
(TU Chapter 531) www.optu.org
TO CONSERVE, PROTECT, AND RESTORE NORTH AMERICA'S
COLDWATER FISHERIES AND THEIR WATERSHEDS

MAY 2008



President's Message

Greetings Fellow TUers:

We have made a number of exciting moves this year in keeping with our position as a member of a respected conservation organization. The move to the library for our monthly meetings is very well received and the money it saves is a dramatic increase in our ability to do conservation work on the Apache and now other native trout. In keeping with this move, the board decided recently, and after significant discussions at our monthly general meetings, to curtail or significantly limit the actual printed newsletter we send out each month. The email version and posting on our website will continue.

This move is also in recognition of the times in which we live, and the increased access to the internet available around the world. As a result, beginning in September, OPTU will be sending out our newsletter only by email. Printed versions will be available at local fly shop(s), and a few select locations we will publish in coming months. We will also begin sending the newsletter by an e mail message with a link to the website in order to make it easier for our members to receive in this day of spam blockers.

Limiting the newsletter to email will reduce our cost for printing, postage, as well as the amount of impact we subject our community to through paper use, and gas and diesel in the preparation and delivery of the newsletter. Also of import is the cost to the tune of about \$2000 per year this move should save the club. Again, enabling us to continue our increasing conservation work. We are proud of this decision, and proud of our members who have made this happen. *Clay Hernandez*

Ed Davenport passed away recently. His obituary is on our website. We received the following letter from his friend Darlene Hood-Johnson along with a generous donation which our board has earmarked per her wishes for sending a kid to Trout Unlimited fishing camp. Ed died too young. Ms Hood-Johnson's letter, and the picture it paints of Ed is truly all any of us can hope to be remembered

for. Thank you Ms. Hood-Johnson, and Ed we hope you are wetting a line.

Clay Hernandez

OPTU #531, 7698 Sombrero Peak Drive
Tucson, AZ 85743
March 18, 2008

In fond memory of our friend, Ed Davenport:

Ed was a kind and thoughtful man. He was a friend and co-worker and he loved to laugh. He could always lighten the day with his humor. Ed was one of those rare people who could make going to work everyday fun.

Ed loved fishing and he loved children. He took my son, Jesse, on his first real fishing trip. Jesse was no more than 7 years old at the time and had recently lost his own father. I was worried that my son would become bored and want to come home early. Ed assured me that it would be ok; he said that he wanted to share his love of fishing. They stayed out all day and my son had a great time! He still loves fishing and has a very nice memory of a kind man who taught him to fish. Thank you Ed!

Sincerely, *Darlene Hood-Johnson*

Clay Hernandez
President

Conservation Tip of the Month and Hat Winner

For those of you who enjoy the idea of having grass in their yard. Try synthetic grass! There is absolutely no watering involved and honestly you can't tell the difference. It can be purchased at Home Depot or even Costco and is very reasonable considering your water savings and time trying to keep a lawn looking good. A friend of mine has had his for 3 years now and it just looks fabulous. It's green all year long and backed not to fade for 10 years. Follow this link to a website that carries this product.

<http://www.ecowaterlessgrass.com/> *Jeff Collins*

OPTU in the Community

One of our members, Robin Marsett, has taken it upon himself to prepare and organize a "Healing Waters" presentation for the returning veterans in our community. Robin's interest in this most worthy cause was piqued last year, and he presented it to our Board of Directors recently where he received unanimous support. He has now arranged for a group of our members, many of them vets themselves, to present our version of this program to the Veteran's Hospital right here in Tucson. Our group of OPTU members prepared a presentation on casting instruction, fly tying, and a video/slideshow for their consideration. As we flesh out the details on how we can all be a part of this program we will let you know in future newsletters, and meetings.

Old Pueblo Chapter of Trout Unlimited (OPTU)

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OPTU

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



Pheasant Tail

LIE & TIE

7 p.m. on May 21st 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

Danny Hooper and John Murphy on their 2007 New Zealand fishing adventure. May 7th at **6:30 pm at the Martha Cooper Library at 1377 N. Catalina Avenue.**



OPTU's Save the Natives – Apache Trout

TU Bring Back the Natives Contacts

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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



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, *Sport Fishing Educator* for the Arizona Game and Fish Department is in need of volunteers to assist 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. Calendars of Fishing Program events will then be mailed to you. Joe can inform you of programs he'll be doing any time.

State Report from AZTU

A scoping report was recently published for Pena Blanca Lake Cleanup. If you have any concerns about the mercury levels at Pena Blanca please go to www.optu.org look in our conservation section and read the letter I received and a summary of the scoping report. You can voice your opinions using the information provided in these documents.

Pinalenos(Mt. Graham) Update

With the scoping report complete and in the rebuttal stage; several AZGFD personnel attempted to do a fish survey on the three major streams, Ash, Frye, Marijilda and it's tributaries on April 6-7. Bad weather quickly came in and they were able to only cover a portion of Marijilda and a small lower portion of Ash Creek. They learned both

are superb back country trout streams with both supporting some large pools of up to 15 foot depths. Marijilda had scattered debris due to the fire several years ago and will probably need some cleanup. Ash has a rugged trail along its entire 17 mile plus length with hybrid apache/rainbow up to 14" in length. The stream above Frye Mesa is loaded with scattered debris from the fire but the stream appears to be in good shape. Information was discovered that Frye Creek was stocked with Gila trout back in 1969 and Marijilda was stocked with Rainbow back in 1967. This would make for some "wild" fish if they survived all this time.

AZGFD is looking for volunteers willing to brave the wild country to help with fish and stream surveys on June 17-19 in the Pinalenos. This is just before our first White Mtn workday which is scheduled for June 21. Please let me know if you plan to make either of these workdays.

Imagine the extreme fishing trips in the near future when you can fish for wild native Gila Trout in the Pinalenos and Wild Apache Trout in the White Mountains knowing that you were a part of this success story. Hopefully in the coming years we'll have fishing opportunities in other Southern Arizona locales like the Chiriquawas and the Huachucas and possibly fishing for wild Native Yaqui Trout. We can make it happen with help and support from our membership. Contact Jeff Collins if you plan to attend workdays or have any questions, 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.

WIN A HAT

As you know Trout Unlimited is a conservation organization dedicated to the protection and maintenance of our cold water fisheries in this country. Each month we offer one of our newly designed OPTU hats to the member submitting the best water saving tip for use in and around our homes. You can submit the tip to me by email @ czhernandez@comcast.net. The winner will be notified by email each month and announced in the next newsletter. The winner will receive their hat at the next monthly meeting.

Photography Contest

We are holding a photography contest for OPTU members. Bring a copy to a meeting of 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.

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*

Upcoming Speakers

May – Danny Hooper and John Murphy on their New Zealand adventure



Danny and Sharon Hooper at the Mayfly Café, NZ

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 Fishing Trips

OPTU will likely develop plans for the following trips in **2008**: 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.

2008 Retirees Trip is scheduled for 9/16-9/30 and includes 3 days guided fishing on the Big Hole River in Montana, 4 days fishing the upper areas of Yellowstone Park, 2 days guided on the Upper Snake in Idaho and 3 days on the Green River in Utah. Estimated cost is \$2200, which includes transportation, lodging, guides and food, with an allowance for licenses. The trip is planned for 8 and currently there are 7 signed on to go. Contact John Singley (318-4791) or Rob Gillette to sign up.

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

My Favorite Recipe

Chicken on the grill with Bulls-Eye barbecue sauce, baked beans made up by my wife (Bush's with extra brown sugar, bacon, and onions), biscuits with honey or Lyle's Golden Syrup, and a nice loaded salad. Yum. *The Editor*
Send in your favorites.



Fish Art

Fishing Reports

None submitted.

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

Nothing for sale this month.

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.

Notes from the Fly Shops

Don't miss Sage Demo Day at **Dry Creek Outfitters** Saturday, May 3rd. Sage rep, John Sherman, will be giving casting instruction and presentations throughout the day. Tucson's Doug Buck (Doug Buck's Castaway Adventures) will give entertaining presentations (11am & 2pm) of his recent flyfishing exploits in Argentina, Chile, Mexico and Costa Rica. Finally, Andy Burk of the Reno Fly Shop will give interactive fly-tying demonstrations (12n & 3:30pm) during the event. Andy is one of the industry's most innovative and proficient fly tyers and he'll tie anything but Atlantic Salmon flies. He'll discuss the creative process he uses to come up with new designs and will involve the audience by having them choose the fly he designs - whether it be an insect, baitfish, crustacean, terrapin or reptile! Then he'll go through how he decides the fly needs to function, chooses the materials and designs the fly. We will also be raffling off a brand new Sage Z-Axis 590-4 fly rod! As always, there is no charge and we'll have the Dry Creek BarBQ going strong, so bring the family.



May speaker Danny Hooper with an NZ brownie

A Note from Rod McLeod of Tightlines

As the proprietor of Tightlines Flyfishing for the past fifteen years, and as a supporter and customer of the shop for 6 years when Richter and Murphy opened up, I would like to thank all of you who helped make Tightlines what it was and for keeping the flyfishing "flame" alive here in the Sonoran desert.

Fifteen years was a pretty good run; did some things right, made some mistakes, but overall have few regrets and it has been ton of fun. Hearing your stories and getting to know interesting individuals made it all worthwhile. Teaching the skills and ethics of flyfishing has been more my line of expertise than the retail end, which has become less and less fun as the industry has gone through many changes. I try to keep in mind that every good thing began with someone saying, "We can do this." That said, the cynicism that has enveloped many other recreational industries has yet to ruin the flyfishing "bidness" and amateurs still remain the vital ingredient in the creativity, knowledge, and passion that define our sport. The trends that are generated out of need and desire by us, the guys at the so-called Bottom of the Food Chain (we should be at the top) are what define our sport, avocation, passion and keep it going for future generations. As an industry evolves into a more established and stratified entity, those at the top seem to forget that reality: many of the best ideas emerge from the bottom.

Clubs like OPTU are vital in this entire process, the continuum of the wonderful thing called flyfishing, conservation is perhaps our greatest calling, so I hope we can continue to support your efforts. And get a bit of fishing in besides.

The current plans to reintroduce Apache and Gila Trout to the southern end of this state, after few of us planting a bug in the ear of the local G&F people, are perhaps the most exciting developments of the past 20 years for me, so I hope we can all get on the same page to assist Don and Jason in this effort.

Thank-you again, and best to you all. *Rod McLeod*



Dreaming of Triple Steelhead

HUMOR/Fishing Philosophy

Absent a jury of our peers, too many non-fishermen believe anglers actually make conscious choices about when they should be somewhere. This is because people who don't fish don't understand "fishing-time."

Fishing-time is not like normal time. In normal time, people are in charge. In fishing-time, fish are. This is where the trouble begins. To a fisherman, a hot bite is like a black hole somewhere in deep space. Time as we know it ceases in black holes. Fishermen swept into such black holes can be favorably compared to some future astronaut who, temporarily sucked into a black hole on her way home from the office, arrives home for supper a couple of centuries late. You would not blame a well-intentioned astronaut and mother of two for tardiness due to time distortion, and you shouldn't blame fishermen.

In general, fishing-time tends to be short, not long. A few hours seems to account for most episodes of fishing. Our experience of fishing-time is that it is too limited – which may account for why so many of us spend so much of our non-fishing-time daydreaming about fishing, hanging around tackle shops, tying flies and swapping fishing lies with one another.

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 – Fishing Lessons*



Rainbows over the Juan

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<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.

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 Please send me information on TU's Grassroots Activists Network.

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OPTU MAY CALENDAR

- May 7** Regular meeting: Danny Hooper and John Murphy on their 2007 New Zealand Adventure. **Martha Cooper library at 1377 N Catalina Ave at 6:30 pm.**
- May 21** Lie & Tie – 7:00 pm at Dry Creek Outfitters, 5420 E. Broadway, Suite 254, Call Eric at 326-7847 for more information.
- May 28** Board Meeting at El Charro - Speedway and Swan at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jun 4** Regular meeting: Speaker TBA. **Martha Cooper library at 1377 N Catalina Ave at 6:30 pm.**
- Jun 18** Lie & Tie – 7:00 pm at Dry Creek Outfitters, 5420 E. Broadway, Suite 254, Call Eric at 326-7847 for more information.
- Jun 25** Board Meeting at El Charro - Speedway and Swan at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited.