



# OPTU NEWS

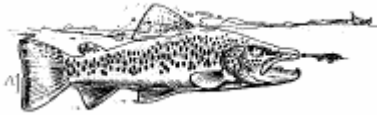


VOLUME 16 ISSUE 6

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

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

JUNE 2008



## President's Message

### Greetings Fellow TUers:

The Work days are here! The Work days are here! While it may not be as exciting as the new phone books (for all you Steve Martin fans), for many of us the work days are the very best part of OPTU. It is what we do.

I want to personally invite each of you to actively set aside a weekend this summer to attend one of our work days. The dates are all on our web site. If you will attend just one, I can assure you that you will want to return as often as your schedule permits.

While the name may conjure visions of carrying buckets of sand up a hill at 9,000 feet of altitude, nothing can be further from the truth. There are jobs, if you want to call it work for everyone from 8 to 80. Kids can help capture crayfish/craw-dads on burro creek as it feeds into the west fork of the Black River. My 18 year old daughter and her friend still love to hunt craw-dads, a habit they began on work days when they were in 3rd grade. We have a number of hikes depending on the work days of greatly varying lengths and challenge to check on, place and monitor our HOBO units. They are the units we have purchased over the years which monitor air and water temperatures along various watersheds in the White Mountains. The data is relayed to the federal or state agency requesting it. Those of us not up to the above action can keep an eye on our campground or help make the lunches we provide our work crews. There is a little something for everyone.

One of the greatest benefits of the work days is getting the chance to spend some time with the people from the Forestry department, or Arizona Game and Fish who, like us generously donate their time. Imagine getting to pick the brain of a man or woman, who lives up in the area, about the status of the streams and rivers, how the forests are holding up this year and why, where the fish seem to be biting, and where the elk and turkey seem to be. I hope I am not being too subtle.

Finally, the best part is getting to camp with a bunch of our friends and neighbors who can teach you a thing or two about spending a few days in the White Mountains. It is great, for those of us new to this business, as there are

always a number of generous folks who have got your back, if you forget something, something breaks, or you aren't exactly sure the way to set up your tent or trailer. Over the years, I have learned to cook with a Dutch oven, sleep in my truck when the monsoons happen by, listen for the elk at sun up, not to come to a complete stop when driving through the forest I spot wildlife, and which roads to take home in the fall for maximum leaf color.

Hopefully you get the idea. I hope to see some of you this June 20-22 at our first workday, and more importantly, all of you during the course of this summer.

### NEW BOARD MEMBERS

We are excited to have two new Board Members join your OPTU Board of Directors. In recent weeks Stan Vanagunas, and Roger McKee were unanimously approved to serve on the Board of Directors. Both Stan and Roger attended our May meeting at El Charro on Swan and Speedway, and got right to work.

Stan proposed and will oversee a new section you will see in the Website in the upcoming months regarding a reference section with our members listed who can provide information on fishing in particular parts of the State, Country, and the World. This is discussed further in this newsletter.

Roger is responsible for the suggestion from his previous home in San Diego that prompted Whitey Keubler to begin the Saturday morning casting group who meet weekly at the park at 14<sup>th</sup> and Craycroft.

You will see evidence of their hard work in the months and hopefully years to come.

### NEWSLETTER REMINDER

Beginning in September, OPTU will be sending out our newsletter only by email. Printed versions will be available at local fly shop(s), and at a few select locations that we will publish in coming months. We will also begin sending the newsletter by an email message with a link to the website in order to make it easier for our members to receive in this day of spam blockers.

### SPEAKERS

I would like to extend our thanks to John Murphy for his presentation on New Zealand at our May Meeting. The photography was spectacular, and his insight into his trips to the Kiwi nation made many of us reconsider our pledge to only fish the US. I cannot wait for his next trip so we can enjoy another such presentation. Thanks John.

**Clay Hernandez**  
President

## Old Pueblo Chapter of Trout Unlimited (OPTU)

### President

Clay Hernandez (h) 520-529-4621  
(c) 520-248-6954  
email: [czhernandez@comcast.net](mailto:czhernandez@comcast.net)

### Vice President

Volunteers requested

### Secretary

Mike Mehrer (h) 520-762-4035  
email: [mehrog2@gainbroadband.com](mailto:mehrog2@gainbroadband.com)

### Treasurer

Lauren Lucas  
email: [laurenklucas@comcast.net](mailto:laurenklucas@comcast.net)

### Conservation Officer

Jeff Collins (h) 520-744-8799  
(c) 520-403-4062  
email: [jnc51@comcast.net](mailto:jnc51@comcast.net)

### Membership Coordinator

Open

### Outings Coordinator

Rob Gillette (h) 520-615-8141  
email: [azflyfshr@comcast.net](mailto:azflyfshr@comcast.net)  
[robgillette@comcast.net](mailto:robgillette@comcast.net)

### Youth Education Coordinator

Steve Reiter (h) 520-795-2388  
email: [sreiter4@cox.net](mailto:sreiter4@cox.net)

### Public Relations Officer

Open

### Board

Linda Bucy (h) 520-795-7746  
Danny Hooper  
Scott Koltav (h) 520-749-0625  
Debbie Lynch (h) 520-742-7708  
John Singley (h) 520-318-4791  
Stan Vanagunus  
Roger McKee

### Newsletter Editor

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

### OPTU

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

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



*Pheasant Tail*

## LIE & TIE

7 p.m. on June 18<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

The June meeting will be a discussion by the officers about upcoming workdays and what we plan to accomplish. June 4<sup>th</sup> 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

**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



## 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)

### 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](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. Calendars of Fishing Program events will then be mailed to you. Joe can inform you of programs he'll be doing any time.

### Conservation Officer Report

**1. Trout in the Classroom** - TIC was a success this year even though during Spring break there was a major die off. We still ended up with a dozen or so fish that the AZGFD took away to their hatchery. The students had a field trip at Rose Canyon on May 3. OPTU and AZTU sponsored the outing in which students worked with AZGFD to release hatchery fish into the lake. Sue Simpson, the TIC teacher extends her thanks to the Chapter. We have a TIC meeting at AZGFD Tucson office on June 24. We will update the curriculum that was created last year and decide how we will go forward in Arizona with TIC. We already have several schools throughout the state interested in starting a TIC program. I am looking into funding more TIC either through grant or generous

donations. The cost for a school to do TIC is about \$1,000 per class.

**2. Youth Camp** - We have again joined forces with the Kalamazoo TU chapter in Michigan. They have graciously given us two slots for our youths to go to this fabulous camp. We have selected two of the students from the TIC class to go to the camp. Arrangements are being made at this printing. The camp starts July 6 and is 5 days. The two winning students wrote reports on their experience with TIC. They also logged many hours of testing and caring for the trout. The youth camp is always looking for adult volunteers to help out. The experience is unforgettable.

**3. Workdays** - Our workdays are on schedule with the first one being June 21. We will be collecting data from temperature monitors already in place. Come and enjoy the cool weather, camaraderie, and great fishing only the White Mountains can offer. My son will be down from Alaska to help out. We will meet at FR116 campsite.

**4. Eagle Scout** - Mark your calendars, we have another Eagle Scout project coming up. Kevin Brown, Steve Brown's grandson, has chosen a project through our chapter. On July 19 he will organize several groups to take insect counts on the WF of the Black River. The scouts will build nets and kick up some bugs in the stream. They will then separate and identify and count the insects; sounds like fun. Bring your children and grandchildren to help out. Information gathered will be sent for analysis to AZGFD and USFS biologists. We will be camping at FR116 near Crescent lake

**5. Pinalenos Gila Trout** - We will be doing fish surveys on June 17-19 with AZGFD on several streams in the Pinalenos (Mount Graham) to determine eradication of non natives. We will try and eradicate the non natives before year end and introduce Gila Trout put aside for us at a New Mexico facility by Spring of 2009.

**6. Canyon Creek workdays** - There will be some clean up work on Canyon Creek this summer headed up by the Zane Grey TU Chapter of Phoenix. There are still remnants of fire damage that needs to be cleaned up. I heard that Canyon Creek is fishing better than it ever has. There was also a decision by AZGFD to leave Canyon Creek at its status of Blue Ribbon fishery and will NOT be changed to Put and Take. Thanks go to ZGTU for following up on this issue. As soon as I get the workday dates I will post them on our website.

**7. Volunteering** - As you can see we have plenty of work available for the avid volunteer. The problem is there seems to be too few of these volunteers. Please look at these projects and help out as much as you can. It's amazing to live here in the desert and next year we'll be able to fish for native Gila trout within a two hour drive from Tucson. Just think, you made this happen. Volunteer to help out at a TIC project and see how these young people get so excited about trout; this is our future. Instead of sitting home and reading in the paper how bad our youth is, get out there and volunteer to change this. TIC, in my opinion, is the best idea TU has come up with

to connect with young people and get them involved in our conservation goals. I will be holding a workshop this summer to train volunteers on TIC; please plan on attending. Dates will be posted on the website after the June 24 meeting.

I will be attending the TU Western Regional conference in Grand Junction Colorado this weekend 5/16-5/20. We will be trying to solve problems for the region by sharing ideas and brainstorming. All states will present their projects and how they went about working them. This information is invaluable as it raises the learning curve through others that have experienced the same issues. It also creates meetings with other states that are working on similar project such as AZ and NM working on Gila trout. *Jeff Collins*

## 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.



*Cullen Collage with Bear*

### 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](mailto: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](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.

**NOTE: Contest will be judged at July Meeting. Submit your photos NOW.**

**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

July: Swap Meet and Photo Contest Judging

August: Jason Kline, Arizona Game and Fish Department - Trout reintroduction in the Pinalenos.

September: TBA

October: Bruce Berman on Autumn and Winter steelheading in the Northern California.

### 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. Trip is FULL.

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

### My Favorite Recipe

*John's Chili Supreme*

This is my favorite Chile recipe. It is nothing like that of "professional" chili makers who tend to avoid beans and make it hot as Hades, but more what I like. I make enough to freeze about half - so cut this in half if you want less.

Heat 2 lbs of ground beef, turkey, sausage, steak, or a mix of these in a large pot with one chopped onion. I tend to use ground beef but I think any leftover meat would work pretty well. As soon as the meat is lightly browned drain off excess water and add a 16 ounce can of chopped tomatoes, one large can of Bush's baked beans (original flavor is my favorite), 2 cans of kidney beans, one can of

navy beans, one large can of mushrooms (or fresh if you like – cook these with the meat if used), and two packages of chili powder mix. Stir and heat till gently bubbling then turn down and simmer for awhile. Don't forget to stir occasionally to keep the bottom from burning. Add salt, pepper, chili powder, chopped jalapeno peppers, jalapeno juice, etc. to your taste. The concoction is ready to eat as soon as it bubbles, but it gets better over time with simmering. Serve plain, with rice (yellow or white), covered with cheese, or all of the above. Yum. *The editor*  
**Send in your favorites.**



*Eric and tuna*

### **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**

HONDA OUTBOARD MOTOR (I think 2002) in excellent overall condition. 4 stroke. Short shaft. 2½ h.p. Only \$300 (they retail at \$1,000+). Call Stan at 520-207-0424 (departing Tucson Jun 1, return Sept 1).

### **OPTU Website and Newsletter By E-Mail**

Beginning in September, the newsletter will no longer be mailed. To make sure that you don't miss out on all the action, e-mail [murphy@pharmacy.arizona.edu](mailto:murphy@pharmacy.arizona.edu) Subject: e-mail newsletter. Give your name 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 notification that the newsletter has been posted.** The newsletter is available on our OPTU website [www.optu.org](http://www.optu.org).



*San Juan Madness*

### **Notes from the Fly Shops**

### **HUMOR/Fishing Philosophy**

Nothing is funny this month. Too much work. Time to go fishing and reset the compass.

## Classified Ads

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### Enchanted HideAway Lodge At the San Juan River, NM

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<u>Format</u>	<u>One time</u>	<u>6 months</u>	<u>1 Year</u>
1/12 <sup>th</sup> 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 1/12<sup>th</sup> 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?**

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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  
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**Please check membership category\***

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**Moving?**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Old Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

New Address \_\_\_\_\_ New Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

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

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### **OPTU JUNE CALENDAR**

- Jun 4** Regular meeting: A discussion of upcoming workdays, where we will go and what we plan to accomplish. **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.

### ***UPCOMING EVENTS***

- Jul 2** Regular meeting: **SWAP MEET** – bring your stuff. AND – Photo contest judging by attendees **Martha Cooper library at 1377 N Catalina Ave at 6:30 pm.**
- Jul 16** Lie & Tie – 7:00 pm at Dry Creek Outfitters, 5420 E. Broadway, Suite 254, Call Eric at 326-7847 for more information.
- Jul 23** Board Meeting at El Charro - Speedway and Swan at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited.