



OPTU NEWS



VOLUME 16 ISSUE 8

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

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

AUGUST 2008



President's Message

Greetings Fellow TUers:

No one ever tells you when you sign on as President that you will be asked to come up with something readable each month, and more importantly, that each of you may have to read it. With that said, my thanks goes out again to our editor of this publication for his patience and wisdom. As you know, this will be the last newsletter we send out by regular mail. I am sure it will be mentioned later in the newsletter as well. We are in effect walking the walk with this move as we continue our efforts at stream rehabilitation. I am saving most of the statistics, and numbers for my January address, but I believe we are continuing to make great strides toward our group's charge. It will not be without challenges.

In my own case, I am going to have to print out a copy for my 87 year old father each month, as he is somewhat interested in the words of the President of this organization. He doesn't own a computer, and relies on me and my brother for the emailed pictures from our sister of his newest grandchild. Yet even he agrees with our reasons for going to an emailed newsletter.

I want to invite all of you to the August Meeting on August 6, 2008. Jason Kline will be speaking about the reintroduction of Native Species of Trout here in Arizona. The hook (if you

will excuse the pun) is that he will be reviewing for us the efforts in watersheds much closer to Tucson than the White Mountains. The Pinalenos (Mt. Graham) and the Chiracahuas are under review. It could be the future for Trout fishing in Arizona and more importantly OPTU. Hope to see you there.

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.

Clay Hernandez
President



Steelhead Dreams

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



Pheasant Tail

LIE & TIE

7 p.m. on August 20th 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 August meeting will feature Jason Kline of Arizona Game and Fish on trout reintroduction in the Pinalenos. August 6th 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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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.

Conservation Officer Report

The AZ Council will meet sometime in August in preparation to the TU National convention in Utah. I won't be able to attend but Karl Schultz (Vice Chair) will take my place. There will be plenty of topics to cover. I would ask that the OPTU board send a representative to the National Convention just to see what it's all about. You'll go on a guided fishing trip as well as a conservation tour. We should discuss it at this month's board meeting.

HELP WANTED!

I met with Eric Proctor of AZGFD education department a few days ago to discuss Trout in the Classroom. This is a wonderful program but it is suffering. We need a TIC coordinator. Joe Fagan and I did it last year but due to a new job, Joe is unable to do it and due

to a new job and other TU responsibilities I have, I can no longer do it. The AZGFD and others met after my meeting with Eric to discuss the future of TIC in AZ and all agreed that we need a coordinator. I would be willing to train and help out for the first year. This coordinator would be the central contact for all issues with TIC but not necessarily be at all the classes. Last year we had one class; we were shooting for 5 this year but it won't happen without someone to step up and be the coordinator. **Please contact me if you're interested**, it doesn't have to be one person. I am planning to give a training class on TIC to teachers and volunteers so no one goes into it cold. There will be guidelines set up for teachers and schools so all the burden doesn't fall on one person.

The workdays have been going well. Our June workday brought about 12 volunteers to collect data and change batteries in temperature monitors. We also trapped crayfish. Joe Fagan recorded size and sex of the crayfish.

The July workday is July 19th with an Eagle Scout Project of collecting aquatic insects in the WF of Black. We will also be trapping crayfish.

At last months workday we noticed fencing removed from the WF of Black and Burro Creek. I had heard that the Arizona Elk Society had bought the rights to the grazing lease from the Forest Service. After some research I found this to be correct. In fact this project has been ongoing and will continue. Last month AZ Elk Society removed 8 miles of fencing with 60 volunteers (c'mon they're showing us up!!!). I spoke with Steve Clark, President of AZ Elk Society who told me they purchased the lease and that cattle are gone and they have removed a total of 25 miles of fencing to date. I offered him help on next year's workday on Burro Creek. Please keep this in mind for next May.

There is also a land swap going on for land around Burro Creek and WF of Black with some land around Greer (they get Greer). This would help expand our Apache Trout restoration.

Work on the Pinalenos continued with electroshocking and fish counts on Marijilda and it's tributaries. So far no non-native fish have been found. We will be surveying Frye and Ash Creeks in coming months. If no fish are found it will almost be a slam dunk to get Gila Trout in these streams by Spring of '09. During the comment period there were 4 comments; 3 for the project and one opposed. This is being investigated presently. Thanks to those who submitted comments.

If there are any questions on the Council level, please feel free to contact me. Thanks. *Jeff Collins, AZTU Council Chairman*

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.

Sharing Your Fishing – Experience Mapping

The Board thinks it may be a good idea to build and maintain a file of members' fishing area expertise; something that could be used by others as they plan their vacations and trips. We all know that collectively our members have rich fishing experience, from Arivaca to Alaska, from Parker Canyon to Christmas Island. Some of you have excellent knowledge about fishing, for example, our White Mountains, southern Utah, Colorado, Oregon, Northern California, the Florida Keys, New Zealand, and so on at great length. My phone is 520-743-0210 and my email is vanagunas@msn.com.

Stan Vanagunas

4351 W. Olivette Mine Pl.,

Tucson, AZ 85745

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

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.

November: Karen Denison on "Trout fishing for women."

December: Holiday party

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 FULL: 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. Keep your eyes on next year.

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

My Favorite Recipe

Watties baked beans and spicy tuna – both in pop-top cans. It's my go to New Zealand lunch if I can't make a sandwich. Eat some beans and the mix the tuna and beans. Now that's a solid streamside lunch with no need for a fire. After a day of fishing, such a lunch should be followed up with a scoop or two of Hokie-Pokie ice cream. Yumm.

Send in your favorites.



Danny with Thanksgiving lunch 2008 – New Zealand



John getting ready to enjoy the Hokie-Pokie

Fishing Reports

Went fishing recently on Holbox Island in Mexico. I tied around 100 flies for this trip and the guide selected the very last fly that I tied before the trip. I must be getting better at tying flies. I hooked this beauty at 7:40 am and boated it approximately 10 am. Enjoy; I sure did.
Whitey



Two whipped combatants

Tongariro River – North Island New Zealand

As part of my usual approach to work, I was able to take three days to fish the Tongariro River that flows into Lake Taupo. The lake was stocked with steelhead strain

rainbows many years ago and New Zealand fall is spawning time. I happened to hit it perfectly – three straight days of rain after a long period of dry – so the fish were ready to head upstream. The fishing was outstanding, and other than my near slide down a slick bank into an 8 ft. deep pool, life was good. I used the same approaches as I employ for steelhead in Alaska and the fish responded well. Unfortunately, the first long day the fish seriously won out on the quick-release aspect of catch and release. I only managed to land 4 of 16 hookups. The next day I did much better, but was really confused on that first outing. Life is good when you can mix outstanding fishing with a little work. *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

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 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.

Notes from the Fly Shops

Dry Creek Outfitters is offering an incentive to customers in the market for a float tube or pontoon boat. We will include a double action pump and \$50 worth of flies with every float tube or pontoon boat sale (must be in stock). We have several float tubes from Outcast and Fishcat (prices starting at \$169) and pontoon boats from Fishcat (prices starting at \$450). Don't forget, we have already absorbed the shipping fee!! Also, we are discounting the RS4 and Red.Fly2 fly rods from Redington. These are both fast action fly rods with lifetime breakage guarantees. Redington, now owned by Sage Manufacturing, has been putting out some excellent rods the past 2 years. The 4-piece RS4 fly rods will be marked down from \$250 to \$199 and the 4-piece Red.Fly2 fly rods will be reduced from \$180 to \$149. Stop in soon as availability is limited. Call us at 326-7847 with any questions.

HUMOR/Fishing Philosophy

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Please show your appreciation and become a customer.

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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.

**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)
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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

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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OPTU AUGUST CALENDAR

- Aug 6** Jason Kline, Arizona Game and Fish on trout reintroduction in the Pinalenos
Martha Cooper library at 1377 N Catalina Ave at 6:30 pm.
- Aug 20** Lie & Tie – 7:00 pm at Dry Creek Outfitters, 5420 E. Broadway, Suite 254, Call Eric at 326-7847 for more information.
- Aug 27** Board Meeting at El Charro - Speedway and Swan at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sep 3** Regular meeting: POSSIBLE???? **SWAP MEET** – bring your stuff. AND – Photo contest judging by attendees. **Martha Cooper library at 1377 N Catalina Ave at 6:30 pm.**
- Sep 17** Lie & Tie – 7:00 pm at Dry Creek Outfitters, 5420 E. Broadway, Suite 254, Call Eric at 326-7847 for more information.
- Sep 24** Board Meeting at El Charro - Speedway and Swan at 6:00 pm. Everyone is invited.