

MAY 2001

# Desert Fly Casters Forward Casts



DESERT FLY CASTERS A BARBLESS CLUB



## Presidents Report- May 2001

**Bob Harrison**

Spring is springing. As Dave Weaver mentioned at the last meeting there is a one day outing to Apache Lake on May 5th. Bring your float tubes or small boat and meet us at the Burnt Corral Campground. Reports are that small mouth and largemouth are active. Check the website for details on recommended equipment. There are a few recent fishing reports to check as well. As you will see in later in the newsletter Rodney Depew, one of our members, is going in for heart surgery. We wish him all the luck for a speedy recovery.

There were a number of people that made it to the Seneca outing. It was a very nice day with only a light wind. Reports were that everyone caught fish. Dave and Karen put on a great Saturday evening meal. As soon as I can get the pictures loaded to Ted you will be able to see the fishing stories. There is at least one in there that suggests a lunker that got away. Check the pictures and ask another of our long time members how big was that fish. May 19th is the work outing in the White Mountains. Gary Walsh is coordinating the DFC members that want to participate. Check the website. There are at least a couple of articles under the News tab that discuss the plans. Remember the camp site has been moved to the 'corral' that is just past the cattle guard after you turn off of the road to Big Lake towards Reservation Lake. I don't have the road numbers at hand but Gary and several others can provide more info. Also, a reminder for the White Mountain Extravaganza or White Mountain Spectacular or just a great time to be had in the White Mountains in June. Ted has a sign up list. He has lots of names signed up on it. He has few that have paid the \$10 to join us in the group campground at Winn. There has been good rain and snow through the winter this year. The lakes are just starting to open up but it looks like this should be one of the better years for enjoying the White Mountains. Remember Old Pueblo TU will be joining us so sharpen up the fishing stories. We wouldn't want them to one up us at the campfire.

We have the shops coming in for this meeting to talk about various equipment and fishing opportunities. It is intended to provide the new members and novices more information on what is out there and where to get it along. It is also the time of year that those of us that have plenty of equipment start thinking - this is the year I am going to \_\_\_\_. Might have to get a new rod or reel or waders for that trip.

Well, enjoy yourselves. I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting. Remember, that person you sit down next to might be looking for someone to join them on a non-club outing or have just returned from one and can give you some ideas where to go next. But please, when the speaker is presenting his program keep the conversation down. If you want to visit, move to the other side so everyone can hear. We are working on the sound system and the acoustics but don't have it solved yet.

*Tight Lines*

## White Mountain Extravaganza- Ted Bounds June 15th, 16th, and 17th

*\$10.00 per camp for two nights camping- Please get paid up*

The White Mountain Extravaganza is shaping up to be a great outing again this year. We already have twenty one camps signed up, which equates to about forty people. The group site at Winn campground will take fifty people, but they might let us go over a little on this. The down side of this is that out of the twenty one camps that are signed up, only two have paid me the \$10.00 fee for camping. Those of you who have signed up for this outing but haven't paid please make the effort to see me at the May meeting and get paid up. I will make sure that I'm sitting by the door before the meeting so you won't have to hunt for me in the bar. I don't want to spend my fishing time at the outing trying to figure out who has paid and who hasn't. Thanks in advance for your cooperation. *If you need more information please contact Ted at 480-821-5290 or tedann@doitnow.com*

## Apache Lake Outing- Saturday, May 5

Come on out to Apache lake and catch some smallies, bucket mouths and/or crappies this coming Saturday morning. Bring your 4 to 7 wt rod, #2 density compensated sinking line, and size 8 to 12 flies like foxy minnows, brown buggers, white marabou muddlers, etc. I will be at BurntCorral campgrounds on the east side of Apache Lake at about 5:30 am. There is a daily use fee by the US Forest Service of \$4.00 per vehicle. Coffee and some doughnuts will be served. Bring your float tube, waders and let's go fishin'. I for one will be wet wading....

**Call me at 480-820-0903** so I will have a head count for coffee and doughnuts....and I'll give you directions. *Please leave a message if Karyn and I are not available.*

....See Ya....Dave Weaver

### MAY MEETING:

Wednesday, May 9, 2001  
Dinner- 6:00 PM  
Meeting- 7:00 PM

American Legion Post #2  
2125 S. Industrial Park Ave.  
in Tempe

### Agenda

Area Fly Fishing Shops  
Show Off all the  
Latest in Gear and Stuff

ALSO-

**Jim Frajio's**

**Fly of the Month**

*He will be tying this and other flies before  
the meeting.*



LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS BEHIND WHEN WALKING THE PATHWAYS OF OUR ARIZONA ENVIRONMENT

## The Fly Shops Are Coming In May!!

Ted Bounds

Our guest presenters at the May 9th meeting of the Desert Fly Casters will be representatives from Alta Vista Classic Anglers, Arizona Fly Fishing, Don's Sport Shop, and Scottsdale Fly Fishing Company. Each representative will take a few minutes to let us know what product lines are available at their shops, as well as what's going on at the shop in the way of educational programs and travel accommodations. All representatives will be available after the presentation to answer any questions that you may have. *Hope to see you at the meeting.*

## Special Raffle May DFC Meeting

The first time I met him was at a beginning fly tying class. Being left handed everything seemed opposite of what he was trying to accomplish. As the classes came and went he continued to improve. His callused and cracked fingers from hard work constantly hooked his thread. Finally as the classes started dubbing and brushing out the dubbing to get that special buggy look he was in his realm, he just rubbed the fly with his thumb. He had to work extra hard but that was his nature. He now ties flies that anyone would use because they catch fish. When he took my casting class things had changed. He was starting to feel and understand the essence of flyfishing. After the first two sessions he started learning to double haul. Now he casts to fish like a veteran. It seems that people who are willing to put in that extra effort always rise to the top. So it was with his involvement with the club. After his first year he stepped forward and took over the club secretary duties, sponsored outings and constantly fed hungry anglers with his Dutch oven delights. He was a board member for at least 5 years and recently had to step down for personal reasons. We now understand those personal reasons. A defective valve in his heart requires surgery. We had to find out from his coworker as it was not his way to complain. It is now time for the Desert Flycasters to do that extra effort and support our May Special Raffle. We have a Sage DS, 4pc, 5 wt. with a top of line Cortland reel and flyline, a Loomis IMX 9wt, 4 pc. (Used only twice) ready to go Bone or Red fishing. A 12wt, 2 pc. Redington Rod (never used) ready for Tarpon or Dorado and hopefully several other items by raffle time. This will be a deck of card raffle with several winners until the table is empty. Each card will cost \$20.00 and the proceeds will go to help our brother Rodney Depew and his lovely wife Jeanette defray some of the costs of surgery and loss of wages. We ask that you help if financially possible. We ask all of you to have Rodney and Jeanette in your heart, prayers and best wishes. **Good luck Rodney, we care!**

*A special thanks to Ted Bounds who stepped forward with the idea and donated the first prize item. Gary Walsh*

## Apache Trout Recovery Workday Participants:

Here's a preliminary overview of the upcoming work day in May updates will be forthcoming.

**Saturday, May 19th Apache Trout Recovery Workday On Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests:**

- Camping at stockades (by cattle guard) on FR 116.
- Port-a-potties & potable water will be provided by the ASNF
- Workday lunch provided by OPTU - Please inform Fred Fillmore of # in your party

### Workday Activities:

- Briefing before the work effort - Overview of tasks, what/why we're trying to accomplish - ASNF & AGFD?
- Stream barrier inspection/evaluation (break out into teams)
- Set/retrieve crayfish traps - AGFD to check on availability of traps •Set stream temperature monitors -ASNF

### Social Activities:

#### Saturday evening:

- Combo-chili pot - bring along you favorite batch of chili to toss in a huge pot for all to enjoy! Gary Walsh assures me this makes for some fantastic chili.
- Crawdad boil - just got a crawdad recipe from a fellow who swears it's righteous!
- Social hour

#### Sunday morning: •Fishing outings, etc.

Equipment needed: •Digital cameras •GPS units

Fred Fillmore, Conservation Officer

Old Pueblo Chapter of Trout Unlimited (OPTU) • Tucson, AZ

## April Outing at Seneca Lake

by Karyn Davis

If you didn't make it to the outing at Seneca Lake on Easter weekend, you missed a great time of fishing and fellowship, and even helped celebrate Dave's 39th birthday again. We had a wonderful turnout of 17 DCF'ers, including two beginners, one of whom is a new DFC member partaking in his very first outing. Welcome, George. We hope to see you at the monthly meetings and, of course, more outings. After your experience at Seneca Lake, you will know what to bring with you for the DFC Extravaganza in June.

Another beginner, Eileen, who Shirley Johnson brought and has been working with, enjoyed catching her first fish Sunday afternoon. Hopefully, that catch will hook her into flyfishing. Don't ever let it be said that the fishing has to stop just because of a holiday. Is there a better way to celebrate any holiday than to go fishing? The weather was beautifully warm during the daytime, and cool, even a bit frosty, at night. Trout fishing was a little slow, but steady and those blue gills were feisty critters.

Saturday evening, we all gathered around Jim Dickson's campsite to enjoy a dinner of burgers, hot dogs and a big pot of ham beans. Several drove up just for a day of fishing and dinner.

Lets all get together again for the May work/fishing outing, and for the June Extravaganza outing in the White Mountains for more great fishing and fellowship.

### Desert Fly Casters

## Lee's Ferry Outing

October 19, 20, 21 2001

It's not too early to make the years outing as part of your fishing vacation. Many have indicated an interest to join the DFC October outing and we especially encourage those who have never fished the Colorado River below Glen Canyon dam to join us. You will experience a once in a lifetime excitement in fishing. Reports coming from the canyon indicate the fish are somewhat smaller but that the quantity and quality have not changed. Typical sizes have been from 12" to 18."



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The club has reserved twenty guided slots for this outing. As with previous years, Lee's Ferry Anglers and Marble Canyon Guides will be our hosts for the river trip. The schedule for the three days is: Friday a walk-in area day, Saturday up river with the guides, and Sunday walk-in fishing again. If anyone wants to arrange an additional day with a guide, we recommend you make arrangements well in advance. The guide services are at a premium at this time of year. The total cost of the trip will be \$275 per person. The cost includes the guides and boats with lunch for Saturday, 2 nights lodging (Friday night, Saturday night), dinner at Vermillion Cliffs for Friday night, and a cook out at Marble Canyon for Saturday night. Breakfast will be on your own. Flies provided by the guides will be an extra charge. The logistics for rooms, dinners and guides are difficult to say the least.

You may have non-fishing spouses or friends that wish to join in on the other festivities. Five (5) rooms accommodate two people each have been reserved at Vermillion Cliffs. Two (2) apartments for 5 persons each have been reserved at Marble Canyon Lodge. Some have indicated a preference of where you want to stay; others have inquired about camping out but still attend the activities. Some changes in plans are expected and can be accommodated. If you have signed up and have something change your plans please advise us as early as possible. It will make our task of coordinating and adjusting much easier.

Our contract for all the services must be paid by August 15, 2001. The spots are available on a first come first served basis. You will be required to provide a \$100 deposit at or before the June 13th meeting and must pay the balance no later than the August 15th meeting. Anyone who has paid in full but must cancel after September 12th will be refunded only upon finding a replacement to fill the slot.

As we move along, depending on the make up of the fishermen, we may conduct a practice session at Salt River for those unfamiliar with stream fishing. This session would include reading the stream, types of equipment, rigging terminal tackle, casting, mending, types of flies, etiquette, etc. What ever we do, the club will try to provide some of the more experienced fly fishers to assist newcomers at the walk-in on Friday. By Sunday you can consider yourself a helluva fisherman or something like that. More details will be given on the upcoming months. **Jack Yamagata has graciously volunteered to coordinate this event. For any questions you can call him at (480) 491-0828.**

## More Than You Ever Wanted to Know ....About Carp . . . By Vince Deadmond

Ever get caught, by someone you really didn't want to talk to . . . but they really want to talk, and talk, to you . . . about a subject you didn't want to talk about anyway? It could happen at work, at the diner, or worse yet on a long trip. I start telling people about some of my fishing adventures, and I sometimes see this deer trapped in the headlights look. I have found that some of my fish stories have been a good way to get telemarketers to hang up on me. I am giving you the opportunity to HURUMPH, and get away before I rip into my next fish story.

Whoa! Some of you are still with me. The story starts with me planning a short trip to Canyon Lake, which is only 12 miles away from Ace Hardware where I work, in beautiful downtown Apache Junction. This time of year one can still catch stock

trout, and some huge bass. I had equipped myself for these possibilities. When I made the turn and saw the calm waters at Acacia Beach area being disturbed by numerous large fish, I thought, Ah Ha! Bass busting shad on top water, this will be great. After I had paid my \$4 for parking I noticed the Turkey Vultures. I should have taken a hint, not all was well in paradise. After I had rigged, and prepared my float tube I finally took note that the torpedoes shooting out of the water were not bass, but massive carp. Huge, hawg, Carpzilla sized fish. Beauty is only skin deep, but carp are ugly to the bone.

Well, I had already paid my \$4, I may as well fish. Having experienced this before I knew these fish were more interested in finding out "Who's your Daddy?" The more I fished, the more apparent it was, that I had stumbled into the largest fish orgy ever at Canyon Lake. Most polite people would have called this a spawn, but then again we are not talking about shy fish. These big mama's were head banging, heavy breathing, screamers.

After I had cast and cast again, I changed flies numerous times, a commotion came from the rocky shore line. It sounded as if a large animal had fallen in the lake and was trying to struggle it's way out. I looked for a bear, a big horn sheep, or possibly another fisherman, more clumsy than myself. It was the ridiculously noisy carp chasing each other around. I fished closer and again made some casts. These fish were not interested in anything I was serving. Too bad I don't smoke, I could have offered a cigarette. When I looked just below my fins, ten pound carp were stacked up like cord wood. The occasional really large carp would cruise past, none of them would have anything to do with my selection of flies. Not that it would have mattered, but I didn't have my box of carp flies. I had to slink away without sticking one good fish. I again vowed never to leave any flies or gear at home ever again. This is yet another story where I get a large portion of humble pie, and no fish.

Although I got skunked at Canyon it is a good quick place to fly fish. Two of my favorite places at Canyon are the Boulder Creek Area, and the Acacia Beach. I like to float tube both of these areas. The tube gets you space from other fishermen, and gets you away from boats and jet skis. Useful gear would include everything from a 4 weight to an 8 weight rod. You can catch blue gill, bass, crappie, catfish, trout, and on other days carp. With this wide range of targets plan to use floating, sinking tip, and full sink lines. Useful patterns would be varied also; poppers, stimulators, worm patterns, bait fish streamer patterns, woolly buggars, and even patterns spun from deer hair to look like popcorn, or dog food kibble.

I hope you were able to get some useful information from this report about fly fishing one of our closest lakes. I look forward to seeing you on the water.



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**Video Tapes**

There are some 35 outstanding video tapes from the DFC library. Jack has been unable to reach many of the people that checked them out. He is asking for your cooperation to return any outstanding tapes at the May meeting. If you are unable to make it to the meeting, you can mail them to the address below or give Jack a call to make arrangements to meet and give them to him. Let's give everyone a chance to see these tapes. These returns along with the planned additions should make it an outstanding collection for you to choose from.

As you can observe the previous video check out system has not been working. Starting with the next membership meeting, there will be a \$20 deposit fee per video. The return will be due at or before the next meeting. A month should be more than ample time to review all the information you desire. If you cannot make the following meeting, send the tape

back by mail. Your deposit will be returned when the tape is or you can use it for checking out another video.

Jack can be reached at:

**Jack Yamagata**  
1534 W Impala Ave. • Mesa, AZ 85202  
Phone: (480) 491-0828

**OUTINGS & PROGRAMS- 2001**

MAY 5TH, MONTHLY OUTING • APACHE LAKE

MAY 19TH, 1ST WORK OUTING  
LITTLE COLORADO RIVER, WHITE MOUNTAINS

JUNE 16TH, WHITE MOUNTAIN EXTRAVAGANZA

JUNE 30TH, 2ND WORK OUTING  
LITTLE COLORADO RIVER, WHITE MOUNTAINS

JULY 14TH, MONTHLY OUTING • BLACK RIVER CROSSING

AUGUST 4TH, 3RD WORK OUTING  
LITTLE COLORADO RIVER, WHITE MOUNTAINS

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Sincerely, Your Hostess and Host,  
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