



# DESERT FLY CASTERS *Forward Casts*

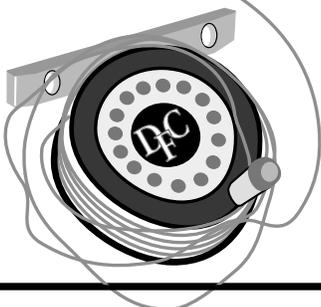
DESERT FLY CASTERS A BARBLESS CLUB



**APRIL MEETING:**

Wednesday, April 10, 2002  
 Dinner- 6:00 PM  
 Meeting- 7:00 PM  
 American Legion Post #2  
 2125 S. Industrial Park Ave.  
 in Tempe

"Used trout stream for sale.  
 Must be seen to be appreciated."  
 Richard Brautigan (1967)



## President's Report-April 2002

**Bob Harrison**

**W**ell, have you made it out for the fishing trip of the season yet? It is a difficult time of year to schedule. There are just so many things to do. The club has its own share of schedule changes. We had everything all lined for the Apache Lake outing with hosts to help new members out. One by one other conflicts got in the way. New help was solicited and found with Roy Baker and Cinda Howard stepping up to help with the outing. (Thanks to them for helping out.) We will have to see what stories come from the weekend as Cinda claims she hasn't been camping in 'like about 20 years'. I haven't heard who made it up or how the fishing was. The weather was pretty nice but I expect a little breezy by afternoon.

Our scheduling didn't get away with just one month. Similar problems occurred with the Seneca outing. The fix to that was to delay it a week. Vince has provided an article elsewhere in the newsletter on the date change and equipment needed. We also decided that the club would provide hamburgers and hotdogs for the Saturday afternoon/ evening meal. Members attending are requested to bring a side dish, chips or dessert to share with the feed. Check on the plan for dinner time when you get up there. It has been known to happen mid afternoon so everyone can try their hand at the dry fly fishing as the sun goes down.

We held the Fly Fishing 101 clinic early in the month but seem to have missed a few and also didn't get as much time on the water as some would have liked. Get in touch with Shirley or me and we will try to arrange for one of the more experienced members to meet small groups out at the river (or one of the local urban lakes) for more hands on. Shirley is also looking at the calendar for additional fly tying classes. The thinking is that these will be open to anyone interested and try to cover some patterns other than the beginning class. (Some circles call this a Lie and Tie.) As some of you know we don't usually have an August meeting because everyone is out fishing. We will hold a Lie and Tie in place of the regular meeting. You will need to bring either your best 'mmm Hmmm' or a tale about the one that caused you to come up with that pattern. You see there were these blue gills at the bend in the bank. A smallish one nabbed the fly. About 30 seconds later a large bass got into the act. Didn't land him but it was an exciting time. Now there is a blue gill imitation in my fly box. If I can just get it to swim like a wounded bait fish|.

As you may have noticed, we did get dinners arranged for prior to the meeting. To make this work, we need to sell 30 dinners or pay for the hall. Next month the meal will be a breaded chicken dinner. Bring your appetite. Another unique addition to the newsletter this month is the insert from the Eastern Rocky Mountain Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers. We are affiliated with the FFF as we have advised on a number of occasions. There will be a similar insert 4 times per year (if their editor stays with the program). One of the articles is about the Fly Fishing meeting in Farmington (San Juan River) in early April. If you haven't been to one of these, you should look at going. It is a great educational program (and more opportunity for fishing).

As we haven't mentioned it in a while, I would like to remind the new members that the club has rods and reels available for use at the outings. Contact one of the board members in advance (a few days or more would be very helpful) to request equipment to be at the outing. One last note, I received a notice by email today that the State Legislature is looking at redirecting the Heritage Fund that pays for most of Arizona Game and Fish non-game activities. Contact your representative and let them know your opinion on this. Otherwise the license revenues will have to cover both as they did in the past. I hope everyone is enjoying their spring and getting almost enough fishing (can you ever have enough fishing) time in.

**Bob Harrison**

## APRIL GUEST SPEAKER...

**Larry Tullis in April on the Green River (...more inside this issue) > > >**

## Larry Tullis in April on the Green River APRIL Guest Speaker

Our guest speaker for April will be Larry Tullis with a slide show and presentation on fishing the Green River in Wyoming and Utah. Born in Utah, Larry Tullis has traveled extensively to fly fishing locations from Siberia to Patagonia and has guided in Alaska, Chile, Idaho, New York, Montana, Utah & Wyoming for 20 years. He has 6 books and over 100 fly fishing articles published. Larry helps design & market fishing products and kick-boats and also consults with fly fishing lodges who want to start or improve operations. Larry currently lives in Orem, Utah with his wife Liliana and 2 young children when not off on a flyfishing "work" adventure somewhere. Come to the April 10th meeting and get the scoop on the great fly fishing opportunities that are available at this relatively close and affordable destination.

## DATE CHANGE ON SENICA OUTING!

Senica Lake outing date has been changed to April 20-21. Jim Dickson is still the host for this event. This is a close fishing destination, one can even make a day trip out of this one. Several people plan to camp. If you camp, plan on everything weather related snow, warm weather you could have both in the same early spring outing. Pick up your San Carlos Apache Reservation Permit, they usually check permits. I have reports that the lake is stocked with lots of frisky trout. Equipment 4-6 weight rod will do, you will need to have a float tube and waders, make arrangements ahead of time if you need to borrow equipment. Sinking lines are good to have for any lake/float tube fishing. Basic fly box should have bead head wooly buggers, assorted sizes and colors, prince nymphs bead head, bead head hare's ear, and a bead head pheasant tail. In past years I have found fish responding to letting the fly sink then kicking the float tube at a quick pace while striping in line. Hope to see you on the water.



## OBSERVATIONS OF A FIRST TIME BONE FISHER

by Vince Deadmond

First a word of thanks to Pat Ehlers and Tom Andersen. Those were the guys that made the plans and led 24 fly fishers to paradise--Andros Islands, Bahamas. Not an easy task for a large group, but things seemed to work like clockwork, with few exceptions.

Travel from my door in Mesa, Arizona to the Andros Island Bonefish Club was sixteen hours. Things went smoothly and I made all my connecting flights. Don't schedule your connecting flights with a tight window of making the next flight. Most of the fellow fly fishers were from the Milwaukee area. I met the group in Ft.

Lauderdale, FL, and we were packed and loaded into 4 planes for our fishing destination on Andros Island. You can imagine what the pile of gear looked like for 24 fly fishers. The suggestion was made to keep your gear weight to 40 pounds. I found with planning I had everything I needed for the trip. Believe it or not all of our gear made it to Andros, and I had everything when I returned home. Less a few flies and several yards of tippet material. I feel quite fortunate, one of the guys lost 24 feet of a brand new fly line to a shark.

Lodging was comfortable, and the rooms were generally in good working order. I was told by some members of the group, who have fished other destinations that this is a problem at other locations. The staff at the lodge were all wonderful. Everyone there was concerned that you had a great experience. Donna Teeny manages the lodge so well that all the fly fisher has to do is show up and fish. My daily schedule for the six days of fishing was as follows; eat, fish, eat, fish, eat, fish, talk about fish, sleep, get up and do it again the next day.

Looking at the rod racks outside of the rooms was like going to a Sportsman's Expo. Sage, Thomas and Thomas, Winston, St. Croix, Orvis, G. Loomis, and probably others that I missed were all represented in the rod category. Reels seemed to be dominated by Tibor, Ross, and Able. The guides seem to prefer a reel that makes some noise, it helps them determine the fishes run.

Food and beverage service was good. When you arrived for breakfast you had a wide range of choices. Of course everyone ate healthy and stayed on their prescribed diets. (wink, wink) Tables of goodies were laid out for us to make our own box lunch, one of my favorites was the tuna salad peppered with something the locals call bird pepper. If you had special diet or drink requests the lodge made every effort to get what you wanted. When you arrived back at the dock staff members were there to greet you and make sure that things went well that day. Appetizers were served, and the conversations revolved around big bonefish, large numbers of bonefish and just weird stuff that happened on the water. World events, daily grind, other things that consume most of our energies were temporarily on the back burner, no one was complaining. The evening meal was spectacular, and seemed to smooth any of the rough edges you may have picked up from the sun, rain, wind, clouds, sharks, barracuda and other natural hazards of fishing for bonefish in the Bahamas.

The people at Andros Island Bonefishing Club make the whole package work. Captain Rupert Leadon has assembled a solid group of guides that show up on time, enjoy fishing all day, and are willing to help the novice deliver a fly to large bonefish. I can't speak for all of the guides but the ones I fished with were top shelf. Glisten,

...continued on page 5

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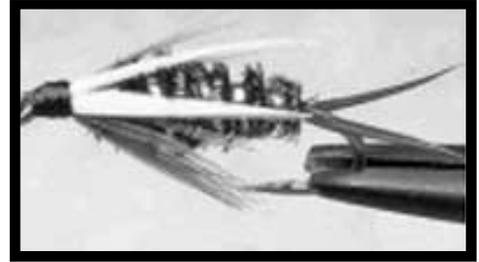
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# Prince Nymph

## INGREDIENTS

Hook: Wet Fly / Nymph in #10 to #14  
 Thread: Black 6/0  
 Optional Bead: Gold Colored metal bead to match hook size  
 Tail: Brown Goose Biot  
 Body: Peacock Herl  
 Hackle: Brown Wet Fly  
 Ribbing: Gold Tinsel or Medium Wire  
 Wing: White Goose biot



**Note:** This fly can be tied beadless in order to fish it more shallow or in slow water. Just wrap a thread head instead of the beadhead.

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. Place optional bead onto hook.
2. Wrap thread from behind bead to hook bend.
3. Tie in two brown goose biot pieces for a tail about 1/2 the shank length. Tie in loosely first, and separate so that they make an even "V" shape, then tie down firmly.
4. Tie in gold tinsel or medium wire at base of tail.
5. Tie in 4 to 6 lengths of peacock herl. (Use less if the herl is fluffy, more if it's sparse.)
6. Wrap herl around the thread to form a "chenille". This strengthens the herl.
7. Wrap the herl and thread forward to just behind the bead - with about \* and eye's width gap. (Or if tying it beadless, leave a gap of three eye widths to the eye.)
8. Tie off the herl snugly - by pulling it upward and wrapping over it 4 or 5 times, clip excess from top of the fly.
9. Wrap the tinsel or wire in the opposite direction as the herl was wrapped, tie off at the front of the herl body and wiggle it to break it.
10. Tie in brown hackle and make one full wrap. Tie off and clip excess.
11. Tie in two white goose biots on top of fly just behind the bead in the same "V" shape as the tail.
12. Whip finish (Or tie a thread head and whip finish.) [end]

Beaded versions are great for faster water or other situations where you need the fly to sink quickly. Fish it as a usual nymph with a good dead drift. This is a great dropper behind a dry fly or another nymph.

*More great fly suggestions by Shiley, next page>>>>*

**Suggested Fly recipes for Seneca Lake Outing [sizes #14 & #16]:**

**Pheasant Tail Nymph**

Hook: Nymph #12 - #22 (heavy wire, straight shank)  
Thread: 6/0 Black or Brown  
Tail: Pheasant Tail Fibers  
Wing Case: Pheasant Tail Fibers (Can be sealed with head cement or similar), or "Flashback Style" with Krystal Flash  
Bead head: (Optional) Gold Metal Bead  
Ribbing: Fine Copper Wire, or Krystal Flash  
Abdomen: Pheasant Tail Fibers  
Thorax: Peacock Herl  
Legs: (Optional) Pheasant Tail Fibers from wingcase

**Arizona Peacock Lady**

Hook: Streamer #10 - #14 (heavy wire, long, straight shank)  
Thread: 6/0 Black or Brown  
Tail: Golden Pheasant Tippet (or red)  
Hackle: Front - brown, Rear - grizzly (equal size)  
Ribbing: (Optional) Medium Gold Wire, gold tinsel or Krystal Flash  
Body: Peacock herl

**Karl Larson's Green Weenie**

*(An excellent damsel nymph imitation)*  
Hook: 3X Long Nymph Hook, #10 to #14  
Thread: Olive 6/0  
Thorax: Five strands of Peacock Herl  
Abdomen: Wrapped Olive Brown Marabou  
Head: Optional small beadhead  
Hackle: Olive, Olive Grizzly, Brown or Badger color soft hackle  
Tail: Olive Brown Marabou [short & sparse] with optional Gold Flash [3-4 strands]  
Ribbing: Medium Gold Wire or gold flash material  
Optional Weight: Medium Lead Wire on thorax only  
Wingcase: Several strands of dark green flash material

**Hare's Ear Nymph**

Hook: Nymph #12 - #22 (heavy wire, straight shank)  
Thread: 6/0 Black or Brown  
Tail: Hare's mask guard hairs, pheasant tail fibers, or other similar materials  
Wing Case: Turkey wing feather fibers (coated with head cement first), or use flash material  
Optional Bead head: Gold Metal Bead  
Ribbing: Fine Gold Wire, Krystal Flash, or gold tinsel  
Abdomen: Hare's Ear dubbing mix, with lots of stiff guard hairs



Education Committee: Shirley Johnson  
sk\_fly@yahoo.com

**White Mountain Extravaganza**

May 31, June 1 and 2 \$10 per camp (vehicle) for two nights camping. (Please get payments to Jeff in advance. He would like to get some fishing in during the week-end). The White Mountain Extravaganza is shaping up to be another one for the DFC record books. We have reserved both group sites to hold everyone that wants to come up. With the low moisture in the mountains this year it may be one of the few places that they allow camping. It is a great time with a lot of DFCers attending. One of the best parts is that there are usually several people going to each of the lakes. You can join with them and as a group dial in on the what works for the day - fly pattern, depth, stripping techniques. Get you payment into Jeff at the April or May meeting. Also remember to bring a can of chili for the Saturday night chili pot.

**See and hear more of Larry Tullis on Thursday April 11th**

Our guest speaker, Larry Tullis, will be doing a slide show and presentation for the Arizona Fly Casters on Thursday, April 11th. His program for the Arizona Fly Casters will be on fly fishing the beautiful *Provo River in Utah*. If you can, go over and visit with our fly fishing brethren from the other side of town and catch the show on this great fishery that is a short plane ride or a few hours drive time from the valley of the sun

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**...see Georganne Jannenga at our APRIL meeting.**

FIRST TIME BONE FISHER/Desmond

our first guide, was an elite caster and gave a much needed casting seminar on saltwater casting. Eddie, our second guide put us over large numbers of fish, even when fishing conditions were not ideal. David, our third guide worked hard to get us over fish, and let us wade and fish. I really think wading is most enjoyable for me. The fish that my cousin Ric and I caught were just your average 4 pound torpedoes. We had shots a bigger fish, and probably hooked bigger fish, but failed to land them.

The guides must have been charm school graduates. They never had a harsh word for our lack of casting skills. The guide would say, "Fish, 3 o'clock, 40 feet, shoot it, nice cast, now pick it up and cast again 10 feet to your right." Fly fishers need a bag full of tricks to match the tricks the bonefish play. Long casts are needed, but some gentle 15 foot casts are needed also. Some fly fishers were lying flat on the casting platform and dapping for bones. One thing I managed to prove, a bonefish hit on the head doesn't stick around long. I hit three bonefish in a row on the head, all with the same result, a hurried goodbye. Ric found this to be true with Barracuda also. Bonefish make the kinds of fast long runs that you have heard about, but they will turn about and come back at you rapidly. One trick I picked up is to put the rod tip in the water on the retrieve, this eliminates excess motion of the line, and you have a better chance of landing the fish. These fish will try to drag the fly out of its mouth by hitting the bottom. They will also dash into the Mangrove trees, or rap around a rock. Many things have to be just right for you to land that prize Bonefish. I could see how a fly fisher in less capable hands could fish for a week and never land a fish. This is the kind of fishing that requires your A game.

Final observations, saltwater fishing is addictive, Bonefish are fast, even a flats boat can get stuck on outgoing tide, and Milwaukee guys imitating New York guys can be quite entertaining.

## SAVE THE SOUTH FORK!!!

**A**ny of you who have ever fished the Little Colorado River between Greer and Springerville know what a beautiful and special area this is. Mr. George Johnson, a developer from the valley would like to "enhance" this natural beauty by building 500 RV spaces and 200 single family homes as well as a top end resort on it. The 1500 acres involved would be approximately between the Greer turn off and the turn off to the x-diamond ranch. If you agree with Mr. Johnson that these additions would enhance this naturally beautiful setting, read no further. If you think that it would look better with wildlife, timber and clean water running through it keep reading and take action. Form letters and stamped, addressed envelopes will be available in Arizona Fly

Fishing, and there is a petition you can sign in Scottsdale fly fishing and Alta Vista Classic Anglers. The petitions and letters will be sent to various agencies who will have some say in how this land will be used. A coalition has been formed and has a web site with pertinent information about the current use of this land, Mr. Johnsons' proposed use and probable results if Mr. Johnson is successful in his attempt to gain control of this land. Check out the coalition at [www.savesouthfork.org](http://www.savesouthfork.org) It has a printable form letter expressing wishes not to allow this land to be developed and a list of addresses to send letters too. Form letters, petitions, and e-mails all do some good, but the best results are gained when you take the time to express your own thoughts in a letter and send them to the proper agencies and individuals. Take the time to express your opinion on this important issue.

## GREAT SHOWING FOR THE SPORTSMEN'S SHOW

I'm pleased to announce that DFC's participation in the Sportsmen's show was a great success. We had a lot of booth visitors on Sat. & Sun. especially. The AFC guys were as great to work with - as they always are.

The show organizers said they had MORE attendance this year than last year. So I guess they'll be back again next year for sure. As you would expect, "the famous Bag Lady" especially, did gang-busters business selling their soft luggage- myself included!

Many thanks to all who helped with DFC's booth. I want to especially thank Jack Yamagata, who was there to expertly watch over things when I could not be, and did "above & beyond the call of duty" as he always does for the club. We signed up 37 folks [and counting] for the class at the Lower Salt next Saturday morning! Though it was a time consuming task, I'm really excited about the boost it will be for DFC.

I'm glad that this time we had enough helpers with the booth that the same DFC guys didn't have to give up a lot of their precious free time again - as they have faithfully done at past shows SO MANY TIMES. Thanks guys for showing the way to this DFC member.

Shirley Johnson



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**2002 Desert Fly Casters Events**



April 20-21 Seneca Lake. *Jim Dickson* will host. If you go you will catch fish! Equipment 3-6 weight rod floating line will work, sinking line will get you closer to the fish. Need San Carlos Apache Reservation Permit. Two hour drive, and primitive camping, plan to be cold, plan to be hot, early spring weather can change rapidly.

map by: Roy Baker

May 18-19 Chevron Lake. *Peter Klemens* will host. Equipment same as Apache Lake, add woolly buggers to your fly box. Chevron is a Rim lake 20 miles of dirt road past Woods Canyon Lake. Suggest you drive a high clearance vehicle. The last 20 miles takes an hour to drive in good conditions. You will want good camping equipment, and you will need to be in shape to walk to the lake, 3/4 of a mile down hill, and 5 miles back up hill.

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