



DESERT FLY CASTERS *Forward Casts*

DESERT FLY CASTERS A BARBLESS CLUB



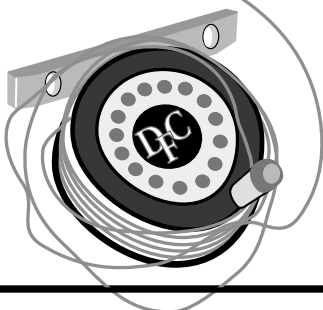
DECEMBER MEETING:
Wednesday, December 11, 2002
Dinner- 5:30-6:30 PM
Banquet- 7:00 PM
Knights of Columbus Hall
644 E. Chandler Blvd.
Chandler, AZ

"A visit to a first-class flyshop is more interesting than an afternoon at the circus."

Theodore Gordon- 1906



Desert Fly Casters Supports
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President's Report-December 2002

Bob Harrison

This will be a final address from me for a while. As you may have heard, I expect to be out of the country for the first half of next year. The club will see a new group of members taking over the board position at the banquet. We elected the panel of board members at the November meeting and the panel elected officers and committee chairs at the board meeting. As usual we plan to keep you in suspense until the banquet. I think the new board is a very capable group to provide programs, outings, classes and other events to your satisfaction. Remember the board members are just members that have volunteered to provide a direction and some organization to the events. They will need help from the membership to make the events happen and keep them fun. The past board and the new board have agreed that we need to put more emphasis behind conservation in the next year. To that end, you will see the new pins developed by Bob McKeon for the first time at the banquet. Please purchase one to go on your vest or hat to provide proceeds for a study on spawning and rearing wild Gila trout and other projects as they come up in the next year. Another event in the making is a special program by Jack Dennis in late February. We couldn't schedule him for our regular meeting but are working out the details for a special evening or possibly a Saturday program. Jack was one of the trio of Traveling Fly Fishers that were here a few years ago. It should be an learning opportunity for novices and experts alike.

As I will not be able to attend the banquet due to business travel, I need to thank the numerous people that helped with club events in the past year. My other commitments have limited my participation as President in club events to the meetings for the most part. The board and committee chairs have all stepped up to make sure the programs, outings, raffle, newsletter, classes, logo'd product sales, banquet and other activities were carried out. Most of the board members returned for another year and remembering having to take over with a almost new board two years ago makes me glad that the new president will have experienced support. Those board members that chose not to continue, I thank for their support and hope they will continue to contribute from the membership.

I have enjoyed meeting and helping all the new members that I was able to or to assist in introducing them to others that could. I will do my best to remain in touch via email while away and expect to return as an active member later next year. On a more immediate topic, Roy has put together another spectacular raffle to raise funds for our next year activities. While not quite everyone will go away with a new flotation device, a new rod or a new fly box and flies, the odds are in your favor with

...continued on page 2



You're Invited...

Desert Fly Casters Annual Christmas Banquet
Wednesday • December 11, 2002

DONATIONS AND PRIZES TO DATE INCLUDE:

- 2 Float Tubes • 2 Poontoon Boats including an Outcast Fish Cat 8
- 2 Reels • Fly Boxes with Flies
- 4 Fly Rods including a G.Loomis GL3 9ft 5wt 4 piece
- Fly Tying Materials • Gift Certificates...and much, much more!

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

the ratio of attendees and prizes. The best way to improve them is to buy more tickets and drop them in the buckets through out the evening. For those that have been to past banquets there have been some that seem to have better luck than others. Think back to who those winners were and follow them. When they drop a ticket in a bucket, drop yours right behind them. If the system works, you should come out a winner J. If it doesn't work so well, the club thanks you for the contribution to future activities.

One last note, we will not be set up to record payment of dues for 2003 at the banquet and would appreciate anyone wanting to renew to fill out an application form and send it to the club P.O. Box. Roy and Doc would also appreciate any help they can get to pick up after the event is over.

Keep you lines tight and kiss a fish for me once in a while. From information available, it doesn't look like fly fishing and China have much in common. If the opportunity presents itself, maybe I can sneak in a trip to Mongolia for the Tiamin that have come to light in the last few years.

Tight Lines
Bob Harrison



A Rookies View on Rocky Point

By Ted Bounds

I'm not really a rookie on fly fishing Rocky Point, but I'm pretty dang close. I had attended the club outing on two previous occasions. I had went fishing out of a panga on one of the trips with my DFC buddy Jake Colmenaro and we caught a lot of rock bass and in general had a pretty good time. On the other trip I fished the surf at the estuary and around town with little success. Basically I had decided that Rocky Point was a nice trip and a good place to spend some time with friends, but it wasn't real high on my list as a fishing destination. I had heard other club members rave about the great fishing to be had there, but hadn't really seen or experienced it myself. My opinion changed on the November 8th through the 10th Desert Fly Casters Trip.

Rocky Point is a short (a little over 4 hours) drive from the East Valley. It takes longer to drive to the White Mountains than it does to drive to Rocky Point. On the day that you are going to depart from Rocky Point you can fish until noon and still make it home easily before dark. It's almost like having a sea shore in Arizona.

The biggest thing that I did different on this Rocky Point trip that I hadn't done in the past was take my pontoon boat and use it in the ocean. We spent Saturday tubing at the estuary and on Sunday, quite a little flotilla of Desert Fly Casters met at the boat ramp at Playa Elegante and followed the advise and instruction of Dave Weaver and had a great morning of fishing before we headed home. Species that I caught on this trip include sea trout, flounder, rock bass, trigger fish, snapper, and a blow fish. Several pompano were also landed at the estuary, but none by me. Doc Nickel also caught one bone fish in the estuary. This is a really great variety of species to be caught on a short three day trip by a bunch of fly fishers. There are only a few things that you need to remember about fly fishing in Rocky Point to have success. Here are the observations that I have made that I

think are important to catching fish on the fly in Rocky Point.

1.) Make sure that you get the fly down to the fish. Many of the species in Rocky Point live near the bottom, close to structure. I think that the fish do this for a two fold reason. First they stay near structure so they can hide and ambush prey species and second so they have a close by place to hide if something wants to eat them. If you are fishing a area which has a rocky bottom and can get your fly at or near the bottom, you are going to catch some fish. In the estuary the flounder use the sandy bottom for cover(they blend in perfectly with the sand) and position themselves where prey species will pass close by them. As far as getting the fly down to the fish, it will depend of how deep you need to fish and how strong the tide is as to what type of line you will need. I used a 300 grain shooting head for the whole trip and got by well with it for all situations. A lighter and a heavier line would be nice to have, but you don't have to have a lot of equipment to get something that will work.

2.) Cover all the water that you can. This is where the advantage of using a pontoon boat comes into play. You can fish one direction when the tide is going out and the other direction when the tide is coming in with very little effort expended and end up at the same place that you started. Fishing from a pontoon boat or some type of water craft is a huge advantage over fishing from shore because you can cover so much more water and show your fly to a lot more fish. I wouldn't say that it wouldn't be worth the effort to go to Rocky Point to fish without a water craft of some kind, but it sure helps your chances to have something that you can float in.

3.) If you have questions about equipment or techniques, don't hesitate to ask someone. Dave Weaver and Doc Nickel both have a lot of experience fly fishing Rocky Point and as always are glad to share information and offer help to anyone who asks them.

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This is a great fishery that is close to home. You don't need a lot of equipment. Some of our members did well using trout equipment, but a 6 to 8 wt. Rod with a good reel and fast sinking line would be ideal. An assortment of clouser patters in different colors will work well on most of the species available in Rocky Point. The real kicker on this is that a one pound trigger fish would drag a five pound trout to death in a hurry if they were tied tail to tail. Ask a few questions and get set for the next trip to Rocky Point. *Hope to see you there.*

Miss Cleo's Psychic Hot Line....

By Vince Deadmond

It's almost the end of the year, a time to *glance back at last year and perhaps ponder the future.* I was just about to give in and call that TV psychic Miss Cleo for some soothsaying advice concerning the up coming year for Desert Fly Casters. Before I could make the call the government has given Miss Cleo orders to stop, and has placed a large fine on the operation. Some how fraud and fly fishing stories seem to go hand in hand. If I had the opportunity to talk to Miss Cleo it might have gone something like this.

"Hello, Miss Cleo my name is Vince." I said. "Yeah mon, you been Fishing . . . a lot." She replied. "That 8 pound Bonefish you claimed to have caught, only weighed 4 pounds." She said. I was astounded. "How did you know?" I asked. "Well I am not supposed to give away my secrets, but I have a sister who works at the Andros Island Bonefish Club, and we talk." She said. "What else do you see?" I asked. "You won't be playing golf anytime soon." She said. "Oh no!" I gasp. "Some unfortunate incident with a dog named Fritz, the beer cart lady, and loosing your clubs in the lake." She said. "It's a bit fuzzy." She said. "I don't want to talk about the past anymore." I said. When I ask about the future here is what she told me.

PREVIEW DFC CALENDAR 2003

January - Silver Creek
 February - DFC Picnic local park
 March - Puerto Penasco, Mexico
 April - Green River, Utah
 May - Lake Powell for Strippers
White Mt. Spectacular
 June - White Horse Lake
X-Diamond Ranch
 July - Small stream TBA
 August - Loreto, Baja Mexico
 September - Parker Canyon Lake
 October - San Juan, NM
 November - Puerto Penasco, Mexico
 December - DFC Banquet

Miss Cleo would have asked me to tell you, if you like what you see in this future calendar, please volunteer to host or co-host the event you like. The host job is really a fun way to get involved with other DFC members. Hosting involves some organizing, phone calling, and on the bigger trips collecting money to pay for the fun. Some of these trips will change due to weather, fishing conditions, and interest level. If you can help out please see me at the next DFC meeting or get in touch at vddeadmond@aol.com.

Seneca Lake

By Ann Bounds

Ted 14, Ann 2, Cinda 5, Roy 2. That was our fish count after fishing all day at Seneca Lake on November 24. Several weeks ago San Carlos Apache Game and Fish stocked 15,000 trout in Seneca Lake. So we were eager to check it out. We caught all Sunfish and a couple of bass. No one caught any trout. The water temperature was 48 degrees on the dam end and 50 degrees on the other end. The day turned out to be sun shiny and warm.

There was evidence that the San Carlos Tribe did a control burn on all the cat tail plants around the lake. So probably next spring access all around the lake will be better. The lake's water was murky with an algae bloom. This was not the best fishing this lake has offered, but no one got skunked either!!

What is it they say, a bad day of fishing is better than a good day at work!
See you on the water!

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DFC Commemorative pins are NOW available...
 \$8.00 each
 2 pins for \$15.00

Proceeds from this DFC pin will go towards the study on spawning and rearing wild Gila trout.

Come help us with this worthy cause...more details at this year's banquet



May you feel the handle
 as the rod bows, the line
 tightens
 and the net fills
 plentifully with new
 memories.

...Best of flyfishing
 to all of the Desert Fly
 Casters and their friends
 for 2003.



Best Wishes- DFC Board of Directors

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2003 Desert Fly Casters Events

PREVIEW DFC CALENDAR

January – Silver Creek
 February – DFC Picnic local park
 March – Puerto Penasco, Mexico
 April – Green River, Utah
 May – Lake Powell for Stripers
White Mt. Spectacular
 June – White Horse Lake
X-Diamond Ranch
 July – Small stream TBA
 August – Loreto, Baja Mexico
 September – Parker Canyon Lake
 October – San Juan, NM
 November – Puerto Penasco, Mexico
 December – DFC Banquet

Additional details please call Vince Deadmond at vdeadmond@aol.com.

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Al, our river keeper, is here to enhance and protect the fishery. He welcomes your questions and suggestions.

Sincerely, Your Hostess and Host,
 Wink and Gerald


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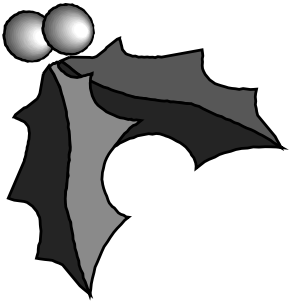
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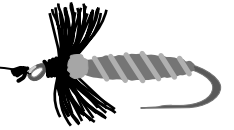
Desert Fly Casters Annual Christmas Banquet

Wednesday • December 11, 2002



Where...

Knights of Columbus Hall
644 E. Chandler Blvd.
Chandler, AZ



Time...

- 5:30 PM- Cocktails and Chit/Chat •
- 6:30 PM -Dinner •
- 7:00 PM- Raffles/Auction and Prizes •

This is DFC's annual fund raising banquet. It is a "Pot Luck" dinner. Ham, turkey & gravy will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Those of you whose last name starts with A through R for side dishes. Those with a last name starting with R - Z please bring a dessert.

ALSO:



If you're planning to donate prizes for our banquet, please contact Roy Baker no later than December 4th...Thank You!

Additional information call: ROY BAKER- (480) 917-7630