



DESERT FLY CASTERS Forward Casts

DESERT FLY CASTERS A BARBLESS CLUB

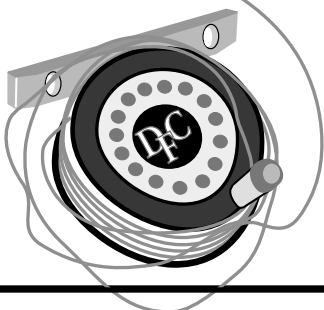


APRIL MEETING:

Wednesday, April 9, 2003
Dinner- 6:00 PM
Meeting- 7:00 PM
American Legion Post #2
2125 S. Industrial Park Ave.
in Tempe

"Fishing consists of a series of misadventures interspersed by occasional moments of glory."

Howard Marshall- 1967



Presidents Report- April 2003

IT'S SPRING! Can you hear the excitement in my voice? I am so excited that I can't hardly control myself. I have started counting flies, checking for leaks in waders, making sure the float tube still holds air, practicing casting and all those other things you do when you realize that some of the best fishing of the year is just around the corner.

The reports are slowly coming in. We have an outing later this month to Seneca Lake and the fishing has been outstanding. Lakes in the White Mountains that are open consist of Bear Lake, Bog Tank, Little Bear Lake, and the Greer Lakes. Hawley Lake is open but the road is not plowed. You can park at the end of the paved road and then walk _ mile to the lake. The lakes close to Sunrise (Big Lake, Crescent Lake and Reservoir Lake) have ice and the roads are still closed.

I spoke with Paradise Creek Anglers and they are saying that the streams are running fast and off-color due to all the rain and snow in the area. The small streams fishing may not be good until sometime in May but expect a better than average summer.

The rim lakes are all ice-free but the roads are still closed. Look for them to open within the next couple of weeks. It's hard to be patient waiting for ice to melt and roads to open when I have big brown trout dancing around in my head.

Now that I gotten that off my chest, I am going to move on to some club business. If you didn't get a chance to wonder over to the retail table and speak with Gerry at the last meeting, you missed all of the new goodies. He has been working hard on getting us new books and new clothing items. Plus, if you buy them from the club, you will save money. We are selling them for less than retail so not only do you get a bargain, the club benefits from your purchase.

We also have some fairly new videos that we bought towards the end of 2002 so while you are sitting around waiting for the ice to melt, you might learn some new skills or find some new places to fish (maybe somewhere that has open roads). George sometimes looks lonely over at the library table so stop over and give him something to do by checking out some videos or books.

Don't forget to sign up for all of the fun outings that we have planned. Seneca Lake will be the 11th-13th and there will be sign up sheets out for it and for the White Mountain Extravaganza (June 20th-22nd) at the meeting. Also, there will be a sign up sheet for the San Juan River. There is more information about this further in the newsletter.

I hope to see you at the April meeting where Jim Warnecke from AZ Game & Fish will be talking to us about Canyon Creek.

Cinda Howard
DFC President

APRIL PROGRAM

Our guest speaker for April 9th will be Jim Warnecke of the Arizona Game and Fish Department. He will give a presentation on how Canyon Creek was impacted by the Rodeo-Chediski Fire. The presentation will consist of pictures and information about the condition of Canyon Creek and hopefully we will get an idea of when stream restoration projects can potentially begin. For those of you that may not know, Desert Fly Casters was involved in a conservation project on Canyon Creek in the early 1980's. The efforts of everyone involved in those conservation projects resulted in Canyon Creek being a challenging but very rewarding creek to fish. I personally have very fond memories of my time fishing on Canyon Creek, after all it was the first place that I caught a fish on a fly rod. If you have fished Canyon Creek before, I am sure that you have fond memories of it as well. If you haven't fished Canyon Creek, hopefully through the efforts of the Arizona Game and Fish Department, Tonto National Forest, local fly fishing clubs, and a little help from Mother Nature, this wonderful little creek can be restored to its former glory. I encourage everyone to come see Jim's presentation, it should be very informative.
April's Meeting Dinner Menu

April's Meeting Dinner Menu

You can help DFC pay for the rental of the meeting hall by just buying a Dinner before the meeting. The Dinner price is \$8.00 a plate-which includes gratuity. This month's menu will be Salisbury Steak, salad, mash potatoes, a vegetable, roll & butter and a Desert. Come early and enjoy dinner with your DFC friends! Dinner will be served from 6pm to 7pm

DFC EDUCATION UPDATE

The Desert Fly Casters introduction to fly tying class wraps up on March 27 at Bob Harrison's house. Thanks to all the tyer's who have donated their time and talent to making this class a success, and a special thanks to Bob Harrison for letting us use his garage again as well as helping with the classes. If you would like to learn to ty flies and missed this class we may have another class in the fall if enough people are interested.

The DFC free casting clinic will be on Sunday, March 30th. We have a lots of people signed up for this beginners class. We plan to have a fly fishing 101 class in the next month or so. This would cover basic equipment, knots, how to get a dead drift, and some techniques to use when fishing moving water. I'll have a sign up sheet at the April or May meeting when we get the dates set. Don't forget to get your gear ready for the Seneca lake outing in April-it's always a lots of fun and a great way to start the 2003 fishing season.

YOUR PLACE ON THE LITTLE COLORADO

The X Diamond Ranch, close to Greer, is the best small stream fishing in the state. This mile and a half run on the Little Colorado has been developed over the years to be fish friendly. I first came to the X Diamond several years ago to take a fly fishing school there. I have been back many times to enjoy the hospitality, and the less congested fishing.

Those of you who are new to fly fishing this is a great opportunity to work with veteran fishermen. While this stream has lots of fish, it is not always easy to fish. One really needs to practice good stream techniques. Stealth, water reading, fly selection, presenting the fly, hooking the fish, playing the fish, and releasing the fish all come together on this narrow stream.

I am trying to get a group of novice fly fishers together with a more experienced group of fly fishers. I would like the group to do a buddy type of fishing, and I believe it would be a good learning/teaching situation for all the participants. The fly-fishing school that I attended many years ago was \$300. The Desert Fly Caster program will be much less costly. Cost for this event to be paid if full by the May 14 DFC meeting. When: Friday June 27, and Saturday June 28
Where: X Diamond Ranch
Cost: 1/2 day \$25, full day \$35, 2 full days \$60

To get the most out of the fishing, I would suggest reading or re reading an old

book that that describes a lot of things one should be doing or not doing while fly fishing. The Curtis Creek Manifesto, probably out of print but is a great read before you start your fly-fishing season.

Desert Fly Casters has reserved the X Diamond for Friday and Saturday, but only a limited number of rods will be allowed on the water. To insure your place on the Little Colorado I need your name and your full payment. I do have some people already interested in this outing; so don't delay if you plan to attend.

Where to stay. The X Diamond has wonderful cabins for rent, and the South Fork Camp Ground is close. Greer offers a variety of accommodation options, ranging from posh to dump. If the group would like I could get our host Wink Criger to do a lunch for us. Believe it or not Wink's cooking is better than the fishing!

Your Desert Fly Caster Host Vince Deadmond can be reached at vddeadmond@aol.com or 480 982 7461 (W), 480 984 4698 (H).

SENECA LAKE BLOOPERS

This past weekend (3/15) I took a little day trip up to Seneca Lake to do a pre-fish for our upcoming outing. It was an interesting trip and one that I won't soon forget. It was myself and Carolee Kirkelie, a friend from Dame Juliana Anglers. I picked her up at 5:30 a.m. and we made the drive east to Globe where we stopped for a San Carlos fishing license and a breakfast sandwich.

We arrived at the lake around 8:15 and we noticed what appeared to be a float tube hatch on the water. I counted about 5 tubes out there and 3 other people besides ourselves getting ready to go out. One of those people turned out to be Frank, Jim Dickson's son. He had brought a friend with him and had his months mixed up and thought that it was the weekend of the DFC outing.

We got our float tubes aired up, waders on, rods put together and were getting ready to head out when up walked Bob Willard. He was there with some clients giving them lessons on casting and float tubing, etc. We headed down to the water and launched and within about 10 minutes, I had a cold, wet feeling down my left leg. My foot started feeling a little soggy so I decided to go back to shore and check things out. My fear was confirmed when I found my sock soaking wet.

Bob was kind enough to help me find the leak and we put some Aquaseal on the hole and tried our best to patch it. Of course none of us had any of the quick sealing Sun Patch so we made do. I did find out that Aquaseal doesn't work very well when your waders are wet

and it takes a long time to dry.

I let it sit for a while and was at my truck when I noticed Cheri Horsley driving up. She is another member that has been at several DFC outings. We talked for a while and I was getting ready to go back out when again, Bob came up with some bad news. He informed me that my float tube was almost flat (as if the leaky waders weren't enough). We decided to try and air it back up to see if we could find the problem. We could hear the air coming out pretty fast and none of us had anything that would patch it.

Luckily for me, Frank Dickson had just come in from fishing and was getting ready to leave so he left his float tube for me to use. What actually ended up happening was Bob used Frank's donut tube and I used Bob's U-boat and we finally got some fishing done.

Carolee and I stayed on the water until it was too dark to see and by the time it was over, I had landed about 30 fish. Most were rainbows but there were a few fat sunfish mixed in. We packed up in the dark and headed home.

DFC has a trip planned there later this month. The fish are strong and colorful and put up a good fight. I would suggest using some size 10 woolly buggers and semi-seal leeches in various colors (black, brown, olive, crawdad, purple). Be sure and tie them with short tails because these fish tend to short strike. I would also bring some hare's ear nymphs tied with sparkle dubbing or a flash-back. In this newsletter is more information on this trip along with a map. Hope to see you there.

FLYFISHING FOR BASS

By Cinda Howard

We had a great turnout for the February meeting when John Rohmer was talking about flyfishing for bass. I have never seen anyone that excited about bass fishing. It reminded me of a kid on Christmas.

At the beginning of the meeting he gave a disclaimer about how he is not a guide for bass nor is he a professional. Then he went on to tell how he thinks they should be fished for (full sinking lines, throwing your line towards the bank) and also gave a demonstration of how to tie the bass flies he has been using.

I found this presentation very interesting because I have been doing some bass fishing myself over the past several months. In November I took a trip with a professional bass angler to Saguro because he wanted to see how us flyfishermen would go about fishing for largemouth. I used some of the flies that John was demonstrating and caught one that weighed about 2 lbs. and another that was much smaller but didn't quite make it to the boat. We will call that last one a "quick



Dave & Barbara Foster 1-800-533-7339
OWNERS

MARBLE CANYON GUIDES, INC.
At Lees Ferry
Specializing in fly fishing Lees Ferry on the Colorado River

P.O. Box 6032, Marble Canyon, AZ 86036
520-355-2245

Jimmy's
fine Jewelry
SINCE 1984

4062 E. Main St. Phone
Mesa, AZ 85205 480.832.9697

Jim Dickson, Jeweler

Alta Vista
Classic Anglers

Gerald L. Jenkins
Tel: 602-277-1464
Fax: 602-241-1548

4730 North 7th Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85013

Specializing in Hand-crafted
Graphite & Cane Rods,
Fine Tackle and Custom
Angling Specialties.

release". By the end of the day it was Cinda 1.5 bass, professional angler 0.

In January Dame Juliana Anglers had a trip to Apache Lake where we were hunting small-mouth bass. We fished all morning and into the afternoon and even though we were persistent, there were no takes.

My last bass fishing trip was just two weekends ago back out to Saguaro. I have a friend that has a boat and she is fairly new to bass fishing. She was fishing conventional gear and I was flyfishing. We had a blast and by the end of the day I had caught two large-mouths that both weighed in right at 2 lbs.

My next bass outing will be to Lake Pleasant at the end March. The professional angler that I fished with in November has organized a women's flyfishing bass tournament and it is by invitation only. Besides myself, the women from Desert Flycasters that will be participating are Ann Bounds, Georganne Jannenga, and Sue Davis plus two other women from Dame Juliana Anglers. There will be six professional bass anglers coupled with six flyfishing women. How this work is there will be one pro bass angler and one flyfisherwoman per boat. The women are competing against each other with the help of the bass pros. By the next meeting I will have a report of how the tournament turned out.

How much did it cost to go to the Bahamas?

By Vince Deadmond

Yes, I have taken some world class fishing trips. Yes, It seems like I fish a lot. To someone who never gets off the couch to fish, I have a charmed fly-fishing life. Those of you who have gone on BIG fly fishing trips know there is a price you pay in addition to the gear, the air fare, the guide, the lodge etc. etc. There is the guilt tax that one must pay. Your children look at you with those sad eyes when you tell them that you are going to miss the band concert, the play, the sporting event, or that your spouse is having friends over again, and you are not going to be home because you are on another fishing trip. Some of my wife's co-workers believe that I don't even exist. I must be an elaborate hoax. There are pictures on the walls of a guy holding up fish, but I am never around the house. You ladies who belong to the club and fish regularly my hat is off to you. I am sure you get an extra ration of grief from family and friends about your sick fly fishing obsession. I don't even want to know what you had to pay for your fishing trip.

We be back from the Bahamas mon! Yes, I have just returned from my second Bahamas Bonefish trip, and it was better than the first.

Cousin Ric and I had some goals in mind for this trip. Fish the wind better than last year. Catch more fish, catch larger fish, and catch Barracuda. We met most of our goals except the catching of larger fish. We saw some HUGE world record size fish, but we were not in a position to cast to them, or catch them. We caught fish in the 3-4 pound range, not a bad fish, but nothing spectacular for Andros Island. Last year we were so new to the Bonefish game that we missed many opportunities to catch fish.

Here are some things that may help when you get your first shot at catching Bonefish. While fishing in a boat usually one caster at a time is fishing, but as soon as one hooks a fish that person should get out of the way and land his fish, while the other fisherman is getting ready to make the next cast. Many times there are several fish and the other fish have not left after the first fish is hooked. While wading the flats don't poke a shark with your rod tip, even if you can. One of the guys in the group did, and the Black Tip Shark did an end for end and bit off the tip of the rod.

Several times we saw large clouds of mud that Bonefish had stirred up from their aggressive eating. While there is a good chance that Bonefish are still in the mud feeding, one should not wade into the mud. There is a good chance that a large shark may be swimming through the mud trying to pick up a Bonefish at high speed. You wouldn't want to be in the way.

While you don't always need to make the perfect 75 foot cast into the wind, you will need to be able to make a 50 foot accurate cast in the wind, and you need to be able to make a 15 foot cast to a fish that comes out of nowhere. A novice caster will be motivated to improve his or her casting or take up a new sport. If you miss your cast it is usually better to be long and strip back to the fish, when you are short the fish may never see you offering.

On a totally unrelated topic my wife is driving a new vehicle. Ouch!

Internet and flyfishing? Of course. These two things may not sound like they go together but they can. There are several websites that are focused on various aspects of flyfishing. A lot of the information that I gather before going on a trip comes from the net.

Here are some favorites:

www.desertflycasters.com Of course I have to plug our own site. We have links to some great fishing reports as well as a links page that will direct you to other clubs, shops, fly tying information, etc. We also have a message board that you can post information or questions.

www.smallstreams.com This site is maintained by Ted Miskinnis, the same person that runs our DFC site. There are flyfishing stories, book reviews, equipment reviews and a very active message forum. You can also submit your own stories for others to read.

www.azod.com This is a site that was developed by some local outdoorsmen and it offers a variety of sports options. You can explore hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, and gold prospecting. There is a forum to post messages and also some good articles about local activities.

www.flyshop.com This is the site for Fly Fisherman magazine. They offer several different bulletin boards to post messages (national and then divided by states or regions). They also have an extensive fishing reports by region, fly patterns, knot information and a lot more. This site will take you several hours to fully explore.

www.ifly4trout.com This is a very detailed site by Mike Mora that is about flyfishing the San Juan River. He gives several fly patterns, fishing reports, a message board, a San Juan River map, and other cool stuff.

Other sites of local interest:

www.azflyfishing.com Arizona Flyfishing

www.donssportshop.com Don's Sport Shop

www.scottsdalefc.com Scottsdale Flyfishing Company

www.altavistaanglers.com Alta Vista Anglers

www.paradisecreekanglers.com Paradise Creek Anglers

www.mcg-leesferry.com Marble Canyon Guides

www.leesferry.com Lee's Ferry Anglers-Guides and Fly Shop

www.gf.state.az.us Arizona Game & Fish Department



Spring in Arizona's High Country

It's that time of year again. Sun is shining, snow is melting, and streams are starting to run a little high and off color. Lakes are shedding their layer of ice. As days get longer and warmer, the trout in our lakes and streams will come out of their winter torpor and start to look for things to eat so they can gain some weight and strength and get ready for summer.

If you are a hardy soul and don't mind wading or float tubing in some really cold water, you have a good chance to catch some big trout early in the year. Several of the White Mountain lakes are red-hot fishing for big fish for a few days after ice out. Our mountain streams fish well during high water as soon as the water warms up a little. While the water is off color the fish can't see you and aren't as cautious as they become when the water gets lower and clearer.

Aside from some good fishing, early spring is a cool time to be in the mountains-still some snow in the shady spots, some green in the spots where the

...continued on back page

JOHN ROHMER
 31 W. Baseline
 Tempe, AZ 85283
 (480) 730-6808
 (480) 730-0735 fax
 e-mail: flyfish@azflyfishing.com
 Web Page: http://www.azflyfishing.com

phone: 480-460-2261

McKeon

Robert McKeon Design
 An Advertising Communications Design Studio
 Graphic Design & Ad infinitum
 http://www.rmckdesign.com

Peter Zwagerman
 Chief Boat Washer
 480-755-1924
 1-866-925-7237
 (all times)

ARIZONA OUTFITTERS KAYAK
 Sales • Tours • Instruction

Tempe, Arizona
 Sales • Instruction • Tours • Rentals • KayakPacks
 www.arizonakayak.com • peter@arizonakayak.com
 107 E. Broadway Rd. • Tempe, AZ 85282 • USA

Seneca Lake Outing

Friday, April 11th-Sunday April 13th

Hosts Jim Dickson and Doc Nickel

Come join your friends at Seneca Lake for some good food, good fishing and good fun. This will be a float tube event and as usual, the club will cook burgers for the group on Saturday night (4/12). This outing is the weekend after the meeting so if you plan to go start getting ready now! There will be a sign up sheet at the meeting. Cost is free except for San Carlos Reservation fishing permit (seven dollars per day).

...Spring in Arizona's High Country

snow has melted and the sun shines, and not very many people on the streams yet. This is the beginning of the continually renewing process that we all find so fascinating in nature.

Keep an eye on the weather reports, make a few phone calls to friends or fly shops in the mountains and plan to make your escape to the mountains in the early spring-it could be one of the best trips of the year.

SAN JUAN OUTING

San Juan Outing Thursday, October 2nd-Sunday, October 5th-trip host Cinda Howard

There is room for 18 people. Cost is \$300 with a \$100 deposit required to hold your spot. Sign up will start at the April meeting so if you plan to go

be sure and bring the deposit. The balance will be due no later than the August meeting.

The trip includes 3 nights stay at Rizuto's lodge, a full day guide, and a banquet dinner. The guide will be on Friday, October 3rd and will be a float trip with 2 people per boat. The banquet will also be on Friday and the guides will be asked to join us.

If you missed this outing last year, you missed a great trip. The fishing was phenomenal, just ask anyone that went.

Thanks to all who purchased the new DFC Pins at our last meeting in March. They are as follows: John & Anne Rea...and C. Kelly, C. Kirkelle and special gift to John Rohmer. Profits from these pins will help support our commitment as a club for research studies in reproduction for the Gila trout.



Nickel Chiropractic Center
 100 S. Cooper
 Chandler, AZ 85225
DR. WAYNE R. NICKEL
 Chiropractic Physician
 Phone: 899-4006 Hours: Sat. 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
 Emergencies 857-0381 Mon./Wed. 1 P.M. 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

NEAL'S FISHING PRODUCTS

 480-945-6122
 FAX: 480-829-6122
 www.nealsfishingtackle.com
 e-mail: killfrod@ix.netcom.com
 910 S. Hohokam • Suite 120 • Tempe, AZ 85281
 Check our Monthly Specials on our Web Site

RE/MAX EXCALIBUR
Georganne Jannenga
 ASS. CRE. BRO. ASSOCIATE BROKER REALTOR
 23425 N. Scottsdale Rd. • Suite 9 • Scottsdale, AZ 85255
 Direct: 480.346.5346 • Home: 480.471.4300
 Cell: 602.320.6388 • Pager: 480.483.3333
 Toll Free: 1.800.535.8919 • Fax: 480.471.4320
 E-mail: Georganne@Jannenga.com
 Website: www.AZ-Homes-Land.com

Scottsdale Flyfishing Company

 (480) 368-9280 • www.scottsdaleffc.com
 10060 N. Scottsdale Rd., • Suite 101 • Scottsdale, AZ 85253
 fax (480) 268-8915 • e-mail: gary@scottsdaleffc.com

ORVIS
ORVIS COMPANY STORE
SCOTTSDALE
 7012 E. Greenway Pkwy., Ste. 140
 Scottsdale, AZ 85254
 PHONE: 480-905-1400 • FAX: 480-905-3896

DON'S SPORT SHOP
 •Thomas & Thomas •Lamson •Bucks Bags •G Loomis •Dyna King
 •Scientific Anglers •Islander •Abel •Airlow •Fin-nor •Orvis •St. Croix
 Trips, Classes, Club Member Discounts, Buy,
 Sell, Trade used equipment.
 7803 E. McDowell Rd. • Scottsdale, AZ 85257
 Phone: 480-946-5313
 www.donssportshop.com
 E-mail: mail@donssportshop.com

FLY FISHING OUTFITTERS • MAIL ORDER • GUIDE SERVICE • WORLDWIDE TRAVEL
LEES FERRY ANGLERS

 Wendy Gunn
 Manager
 HC-67 Box 2
 Marble Canyon, AZ 86036
 520-355-2261
 1-800-962-9755
 fax: 520-355-2271
 E-mail: anglers@leesferry.com
 Web Page- http://leesferry.com

X DIAMOND RANCH
 P.O. BOX 781
 SPRINGVILLE, AZ 85938
 (520) 333-2286
 A local river keeper, is here to enhance
 and protect the fishery. He welcomes your questions and suggestions.
 Sincerely, Your Hostess and Host,
 Wink and Gerald
ACCOMMODATIONS AVAILABLE

Quail's SAN JUAN RIVER LODGE
 TV • VCR's • PHONES
 GUIDE SERVICE & FLY SHOP
 E-mail: flyfishing@acs-online.net • www.rizutos.net
 P.O. BOX 6300 SHOP: 505-422-0881
 1786 HWY 173 RESERVATIONS: 1-800-525-1427
 NAVAJO DAM, NM 87415 LODGE: 505-422-1411

2003 DESERT FLY CASTERS BOARD OF DIRECTORES

Cinda Howard- <i>President</i>	Videos & Books
Dave Weaver- <i>Vice President</i>	George Geoghegan
Ann Bounds- <i>Treasurer</i>	Conservation
Georganne Jannenga- <i>Secretary</i>	Open Chair
Outings-	Raffles
Vince Deadmond	Dave Weaver
Programs	Newsletter Editor
Roy Baker	Robert McKeon
Retail	Website Guru
Jerry Weimelt	Ted Miskinns- ted@devpros.com
Ken Durning	Membership at Large
Education	Doc Nickle Jim Dickson
Ted Bounds	Jim Fraijo Neal Repolge
FFF/TU	Rod DePew Gordon McHardy
Open	DESERT FLY CASTERS HOT LINE
	480-654-6111
	Web Address Site
	www.desertflycasters.com

Desert Fly Casters
 P.O. Box 41271
 Mesa, AZ 85274-1271

MAIL TO: 