



# DESERT FLY CASTERS *Forward Casts*

DESERT FLY CASTERS A BARBLESS CLUB

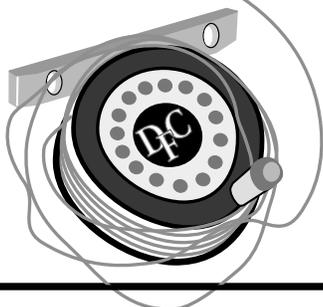
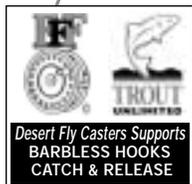


### JULY MEETING:

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

"Fly Fishers are notorious for not explaining what they are doing to their spouses or strangers. It is too complicated, they think, or else it is like jazz in Louis Armstrong's paradox: if it has to be explained, it can't be."

M. R. Montgomery-1991



## Presidents Report- July 2003

**W**ith it being July there's not a whole lot going on with the club. Things seem to slow down this time of year with people on vacation and taking advantage of the summer fishing. At the meeting this month Phil Fernandez will be giving a presentation about the crayfish problem. I saw this presentation at an AFC meeting and was quite impressed with the slideshow and information given. When I saw it for the first time I couldn't believe what the crayfish were capable of doing to a stream. It is very informative and I hope you can make it.

At the time of the July meeting I will be on my way to the San Juan River. I almost feel bad for going fishing rather than attending a meeting. We will spend 3 days at the SJ and then venture off to fish some small streams in the northern part of New Mexico.

I just returned from the White Mountain Extravaganza and it was spectacular! The weather was a little cool and windy at night but we had the chili to keep us warm. Ken Durning did a great job of organizing this outing.

Seeing how I just got back from a fishing trip I have a fishing report. We fished a lake this weekend that I have never fished before. It was Drift Fence. What a beautiful place! It is a small lake with what seemed like millions of nice fighting fish. We didn't catch anything over 14 inches but they were bright colored fish that appeared to have all of their fins. It's one of those places that you catch so many fish that you lose count. Thanks Gerry for suggesting that we go there. That was on Friday. On Saturday I fished the X Diamond with a few close friends and it was quite a bit more difficult than last year. I only caught 3 fish all day. They were all browns so that has to count for something. On Sunday we went to Big Lake and I caught 9 fish about the size of my hand and I have really small hands. I guess catching 5 inch fish is better than catching no fish? I witnessed a 16 inch cutthroat and a 12 inch brookie being caught by other club members. I wasn't there but I heard that Sunrise also fished well on Sunday with a new member, Don, catching 14", 15" and 16" rainbows on a "yellow fly" that Georganne says was actually "olive and bushy". This was his first time with a fly rod.

At the last meeting you may recall that it was announced that we were looking for someone to take over the conservation chair. Eric Larsen volunteered for this position. He has his work cut out for him and will need the support of the club. Please join me in welcoming him as our latest board member.

I will miss all of you at the meeting but will be back for the August meeting that will be the annual Lie & Tie. Also don't forget that the annual swap meet will be taking place in September so it might be a good time to start going through all of your old equipment.

Cinda Howard, DFC President

### July Meeting Program

This month *Dr. Phil Fernandez, Professor of Biology at Grand Canyon University*, will be speaking with the club about the crayfish problem in Arizona. He will give a slideshow presentation that is quite informative. It is a "must see."

### July's Meeting Dinner Menu

DFC pays for the rent of the meeting hall by selling dinners before each meeting. By buying a dinner at the meeting, you can help the club pay for the meeting hall. The price of each Dinner is \$8.00, which includes gratuity. This month's menu will be Spaghetti with Italian Sausage, garlic toast, vegetable, and salad. Come early and enjoy dinner with your DFC friends! Dinner is served from 6pm to 7pm.

## A trip to Big Lake in April.

(This a report/story)

I had one outstanding day fishing. My pheasant tail nymph was toast after 2 cutthroat, one brookie and 11 rainbow all 14 to 17 inches long. It got chewed up pretty good. The rainbow are holdover stockers and weighted about 2 lbs each. The pattern is pheasant tail dyed red, red wire rib, peacock thorax, mottled turkey tail feather for the shellback and a red glass bead.

Big Lake was actually calm for a rare change. There was a prolific midge hatch that was coming off. My hopes of dry fly fishing were dashed when there wasn't a single rise with all those bugs. I tried different patterns and water depths until I got the red PT on the bottom. The red is a bright red. I caught 2 in the first 4 hours (on a zug bug #14). I caught 14 in the last 2 hours. My arm literally was getting tired. I was using a 4wt with 6X fluoro tipper. Two rainbows spit the fly back at me on jumps out of the water. One of the cutts tried to sink my float tube. I was using the PT as dropper off a streamer. I almost had the fish in and when I went to net him he dove right under my tube hooking the streamer on the bottom of the float tube. I had to put my flyrod down and reach down under my tube and unhook this fly all the while a 16 inch cutt swimming around on the end of the line. Glad I pinched the barb. It must of have been a crazy sight but I managed to unhook the fly (without seeing bubbles coming from my tube) and still land the fish. It took me almost ten minutes to revive the fish but I think he made it okay. I probably should have brought him home and put it on the grill. I got rid of the streamer and just fished the nymph.

I went out this morning fishing another lake headhunting for browns and got skunked. This particular lake has yielded some 4 to 9 lb browns in the last couple of months. The wind was blowing hard so it wasn't too hard to call it quits and come home.

Oh well, some days are fantastic and others only good.

Eric Larsen

## FLY FISHING 101

A fly fishing 101 class will be held on Saturday, September 20th on the Salt River at Water Users parking lot below Saguaro Lake. The class will cover basic equipment, knots, casting with a strike indicator, weight, and two flies. We will also cover line mending and getting a "dead drift". This class will be designed for the people who are going on the October San Juan outing and would like to learn or refresh their skills at fishing techniques used on this great tail-water fishery. These same skills will also serve you well on any water where dead drifting nymphs is necessary to be successful. We will also talk about fishing out of a drift boat (how to do it with out wanting to kill your fishing partner or them wanting to kill you at the end of the day).

We will meet at the water users parking lot at 8:00 am. Instructors will be experienced DFC members and the class is free to DFC members. Everyone will be responsible for paying their own parking (I think the fee is \$4.00 per vehicle but I'm not sure) so carpool, be kind to the environment, and save a few dollars. All participants will also need an Arizona Fishing license. For more information contact Ted Bounds at 480-821-5290

## Dachshund

by Vince Deadmond

I can only assume that my dog Fritz was using the computer again. Fritz didn't say a word, but the computer was on and the following story was on the screen:

A wealthy man decided to go on a safari in Africa. He took his faithful pet dachshund along for company. One day the dachshund starts chasing butterflies and before long the dachshund discovers that he is lost.

So, wandering about he notices a leopard heading rapidly in his direction with the obvious intention of having lunch. The dachshund thinks, OK I'm in deep trouble now! Then he noticed some bones on the ground close by, and immediately settles down to chew on the bones with his back to the approaching cat.

Just as the leopard is about to leap, the dachshund exclaims loudly, Boy, that was one delicious leopard. I wonder if there are any more around here?

Hearing this, the leopard halts his attack in mid-stride, as a look of terror comes over him, and he slinks away into the trees. "Whew," says the leopard. "That was close. That dachshund nearly had me."

Meanwhile, a monkey who had been watching the whole scene from a nearby tree figures he can put this knowledge to good use and trade it for protection from the leopard. So off he goes. But the dachshund saw him heading after the leopard with great speed, and figured that something must be up. The monkey soon catches up with the leopard, spills the beans and strikes a deal for himself with the leopard.

The leopard is furious at being made a fool of and says, "Here monkey, hop on my back and see what's going to happen to that conniving canine."

Now the dachshund sees the leopard coming with the monkey on his back, and thinks, "What am I going to do now?" But instead of running, the dog sits down with his back to his attackers, pretending he hasn't seen them yet . . . and just when they get close enough to hear, the dachshund says . . . "Where's that damn monkey? I sent him off half an hour ago to bring me another leopard."

I know many of you don't have time to plan the safari, or even a modest fishing trip. Heck some of you can't even get away for a weekend, but if you have a few hours you can still work on your fly fishing skills close by. The Salt River is flowing and is being stocked with trout. I would suggest you try the Water Users area or the Blue Point Bridge area. Both have easy access and are stocked with fish regularly. At this time of the year with lots of daylight if you fish early or late you will miss most of the tuber crowd, and you can catch a few fish in the process. If you are new to fly fishing, or have not been to the Salt give me a call, and I'll try to get you onto some fish. 480 982 7461 (B) 480 984 4698.



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**CONSERVATION NOTES ....with Eric Larsen**

On a conservation note, I read in a brochure while salmon fishing in Oregon about proper catch and release. The angler needs to be sure to properly revive the fish and not play the fish too hard. An angler who kills and keeps their limit on fish CAN do less damage as an angler who catches 5 times the number fish and releases the fish. The mortality rate on catch and release can be high if the fish is played too hard and not revived properly. Catch and release fisherman can actually kill more fish unknowingly.

**SAN JUAN OUTING**

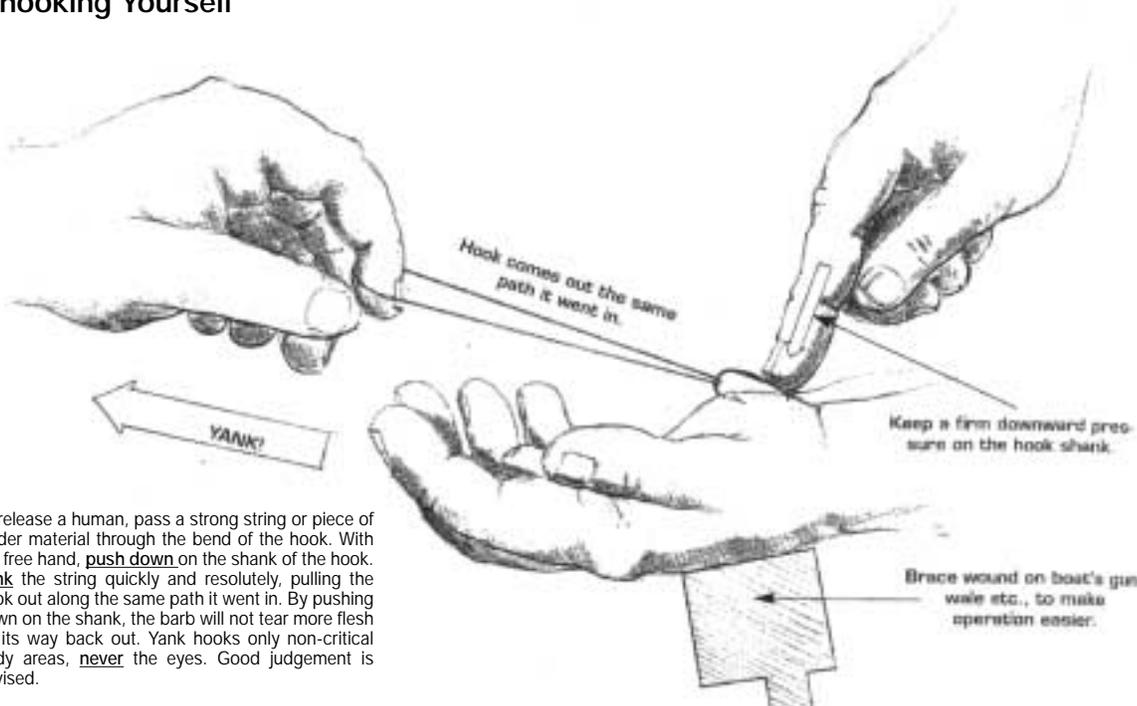
Annual San Juan Outing is October 2nd through 5th. It will be three nights stay and includes a full day guide (float) on Friday, October 3rd along with a banquet dinner that evening. The cost of the trip is \$300. At this time, the trip is full. If you have paid your deposit, the balance is due at the August meeting. **Contact Cinda Howard if you need more information (480) 897-8083 or (480) 774-9777.**

**Editor's Notes....**

I wanted to share with our members the attached letter (see insert). This is a copy of the original letter of the first recognized meeting by the founding members of **Trout Unlimited**. July 15th is considered by national as TU Day which was founded in 1959 in Grayling, Michigan. I have a collection of some original documents in my possession that I received a few years ago while serving as a member of West Michigan Trout Unlimited. I became friends with Cornelius Schrems wife, "Sis," and still stay in touch with her today. Sis created a yearly scholarship fund through Michigan State University for a recognized student who is interested in pursuing studies in fish management and biology, an on-going program she made available in memory of her late husband, Cornelius. I hope you find this of some interest. **Note** the July date on this for the gathering of original members.

*Robert McKeon, DFC Newsletter Editor*

**Unhooking Yourself**



To release a human, pass a strong string or piece of leader material through the bend of the hook. With the free hand, **push down** on the shank of the hook. **Yank** the string quickly and resolutely, pulling the hook out along the same path it went in. By pushing down on the shank, the barb will not tear more flesh on its way back out. Yank hooks only non-critical body areas, **never** the eyes. Good judgement is advised.

The above "Unhooking Yourself" was sent to us by Georganne Jannenga (DFC Secretary). Many thanks for the neat illustration and information...nice heads-up material! ...Always looking for something like this we can share with our DFC members.



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## 2003 Calendar Events

July - *Open* - July would be a great time for you to step up and organize an outing. Call a few DFC friends and head to the Rim, or the White Mountains. To be announced at DFC meeting (*Expected info at July 9, 2003*).

August 1-5 Loreto, Mexico Those saltwater fly fishing bums Dave Weaver and Vince Deadmond are at it again. Get in touch if you don't want to miss out on the big fish of the year.

September 12-14 Parker Canyon Lake - Jim Dickson Host - Big Blue Gill.

October 2-5 San Juan River Trip in New Mexico - Cinda Howard Host - One of the best trips of the year. I understand it is sold out, but you may want to get your name on a reserve list in case someone can't make it at the last minute.

November 7-11 Puerto Penasco, Mexico This is a great place to begin your saltwater fly fishing. Doc Nickel Host. Always a good time.

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Sincerely, Your Hostess and Host,  
 Wink and Gerald

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**MAIL TO:** 

George A. Griffith  
STAR ROUTE  
GRAYLING, MICHIGAN

July 3, 1959

Mr. Cornelius Schrems  
Grand Rapids, Mich

Dear Corny:

For some time I and several others have been considering ways and means to protect and preserve Trout and Trout fishing, and have come up with the idea of forming an organization to be known as Trout, Unlimited.

We are convinced that to achieve that objective, a united, organized effort is necessary:

Such an organization could work with state and federal agencies now charged with that responsibility. Through bulletins, Publications, and news releases it would help educate the public on the dire need of sound, practical, scientific Trout management and regulations to protect the Trout as well as satisfy fishermen.

As the first step I am inviting a dozen or more leaders of groups I know to be interested, to meet with me, Saturday morning, July 18 at my home on the Au Sauble 12 miles east of Grayling. It is my hope that you will be able to attend this meeting. If so please advise me at your earliest convenience either by letter or phone. I am sure that you will enjoy meeting with the fine group I have invited to initiate what we hope will be a great step forward towards the preservation of our cherished sport.

Following is a list of those invited

- John L. Brown Secretary, American Motors
- Ken. M. Putnam Coldwater, Mich.
- A. C. Newman Saginaw, Mich.
- Harold A. Steketee Grand Rapids, Mich.
- Harry S. Bugbee, Toledo, O.
- Mort Neff Michigan Outdoors T.V. Program
- Fred Bear Bear Archery Co. Grayling
- Pierce Stocking Empire, Michigan
- Geo. A. Clark General offices Consumers Power Co. Jackson, Mich.
- Walter O'Hair Attorney 718 Farwell Bldg. Detroit
- Vic Beresford E. Lansing, Mich.
- Dr. John Kitchell Grand Haven, Mich

Our best to you both,

Sincerely,

*George*  
George A. Griffith