

# 2005 • Desert Fly Casters FORWARD CASTS

DESERT FLY CASTERS A BARBLESS CLUB



### JULY MEETING:

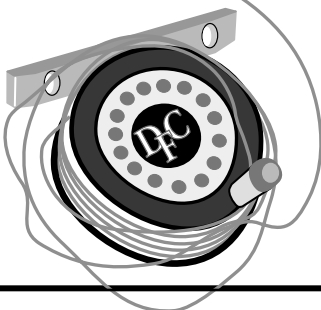
**Wednesday,  
JULY 13, 2005**  
Dinner- 6:00 PM  
Meeting- 7:00 PM

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



**2005 DFC Pins**  
*on sale at  
monthly club  
meetings.*

Not one shred of evidence  
supports the notion that life  
is serious.



## Presidents Report • July 2005...

I just returned from the White Mountain Extravaganza and it was a great outing! Some of us arrived on Thursday and some on Friday. The fishing was definitely a challenge. Thursday afternoon we decided to fish Lee Valley Reservoir since it was close to camp. It was Steve, Bill, Bob Willard, and myself. Combined, we caught 10 fish and they were all apaches. I was surprised at how well they fought. The ones I caught were in the 11-13" range but they felt like much bigger fish. They did a lot of head shaking (similar to browns). At sundown, there was a huge midge hatch and so many bugs on the water that I had a hard time picking out my fly. Even with the hatch, we had a hard time getting the fish to cooperate. On Friday, we got up early (about 4:00) and met Bob and his friend Troy at Sunrise Lake. Again, it wasn't fast and furious. I worked hard for the 2 fish I landed and then we were blown off the lake at about 8:00. We headed back to camp for breakfast and to come up with a plan for the rest of the day. We ended up at a lake that I have heard about but never fished called Carnero. It reminded me a little of Crescent because there are lots of bugs but also lots of weeds you have to kick or row through to get to open water. Marsha, Bill and I spent about 30 minutes watching a damsel come out of its casing and stretch out its wings. It literally transformed in front of us. With all of the bugs, we figured we were in for a good day of fishing. That turned out to not be the case. The fishing was tough and there were only a few fish caught but we heard from locals that there were lots of fish in there in the 18" range. There was a recent Game & Fish article that mentioned "good numbers of 1-3 pound rainbow trout" in that lake. It is a great lake to explore but only go if you don't mind the wind and kicking through a lot of weeds to reach open water. We left there exhausted from the wind and ended up on A-1. We picked that lake because we wanted a place that we knew the fishing would be fairly easy. A-1 is one of those places where you probably won't catch anything big but will definitely catch something. We fished a hatch until it was too dark to see our flies and then went back to intermediate sinking line. There were enough fish caught to make it worth the trip. On Saturday, we took a group to Drift Fence. It sits between Reservation and Lake X (Pacheta). As we had hoped, the fishing was too good to be true with everyone hooking up. The best patterns seemed to be damsel imitations. We caught fish on Bill's damsel, sunrise specials, olive colored semi seals, Denny Rickards' Stillwater Nymph, and a few on grasshoppers. We returned for the chili dinner and some nice conversation around the campfire. Sunday morning we woke up to WIND and decided to end it on a good note and go home. All in all it was a great outing!

There are many more DFC outings coming up that will be just as fun and exciting. July is Lee's Ferry, August is the Greer Outing, October is the San Juan, and we will be headed to Rocky Point in November. I hope you can join us!

*Cinda*

### DFC JULY MEETING....

**Our July meeting will be Gear Review:** What should be in your bag and why. We will go over different types of equipment (rods, reels, waders, float tubes, fly boxes, etc). Come join us early for dinner. DFC pays rent for the facility by selling dinners before each meeting. The price for dinner is \$8 and includes gratuity.

### July Dinner Meeting 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: **Fajitas and refried beans.** Come early and enjoy dinner with your DFC friends! Dinner is served from 6pm to 7pm.

## A Long Story, A Short Dog A Big Fish & A Wedding...

by Vince Deadmond

**This story is so round about** it reminds me of my uncle Bob. Uncle Bob's stories were never short, or directly to the point. He felt obligated to fill in all of the details, so you would have more information than you could ever get in the Reader's Digest version.

This story begins in Scottsdale, Arizona, at the Fashion Square Shopping Center. Anyone who knows me, just a little, would guess this would be the last place on earth that I would be caught on a Sunday afternoon. But, there I was walking through the men's department at Nordstrom's. I spotted a nice belt, turned it over and found a \$70 price tag on it. I put it back, (talk about catch and release). The sports jacket that I examined had an \$800 price tag, and the list of examples could go on and on. I guess that guy playing the grand piano, in the tux, gets paid well. After a moment of quiet reflection, I had to smile, I had got away really cheap with my last visit to the fly shop.

To shorten this story, I must admit that the only reason I was along on this family outing, with my wife and three daughters, was to pay for my latest fishing trip scheduling decision. Larry the cable guy would have said, "Lord forgive me . . . for leaving town on Mother's Day eve, and not returning for 5 days." "And, for planning to have so much fun fishing for Tarpon in Florida with cousin Ric."

If anything I am guilty of being a guy. Fritz, my wiener dog, and I were trying to get out of the dog house, so we cleaned up my wife's car. We did a bang up job, cleaned inside and out, used the Armor All, and a nice new car air fresh scent. The car looked and smelled so good, we figured we would be out of the dog house soon. There was still a lot of day light so we loaded up my wife's Escape with my 3 weight rod, boots, waders, and a few Clousers, and made tracks for the Salt River. We caught a few small bass and enjoyed the sunny afternoon. When we got back I left my gear neatly stacked in the back of my wife's shining, clean, new car smelling Escape. The next day was warm and sunny, and the new car scent was completely overwhelmed by the musty river smell of my fishing boots. Fritz will probably get parole first.

The trip to Scottsdale was all about an upcoming wedding of my sister-in-law. I am supposed to dress nice, and apparently my best fishing clothes are not formal enough. Debi my wife, is in the wedding and needed to get her dress fitted. While all of this is going on I am trying to schedule some fishing time (family time) with my

brother-in-law Tom. We were planning on fishing Lake Michigan. My wife informs me that on no uncertain terms, that I am not to be fishing on the day of the wedding. "Only a real red neck would miss a wedding because he was fishing," I whined. She gave me this raised eyebrow look that said, "If I need to explain it to you . . ." The only reasonable reply was, "Yes dear." And now that I stop and think about it . . . there have been a few occasions where I may have been a few hours late for some formal events. But that is even more information than uncle Bob would care for.

Florida City, Florida is located just outside the Everglades and the Travelodge was our base of operations. Ric and I were in agreement that we would keep the trip expense to a minimum. The biggest expense for the trip was our two days of guided fishing with Tony Triad. In an effort to keep this story short I'll just give the box scores on the fishing. Ric caught one nice 40 pound Tarpon, and broke his 10 weight Sage rod. Vince caught some small Snook, and Barracuda. One big fish for four days of fishing, I think we should go back and try again.

The wedding/fishing trip. My only preparation was to buy a Wisconsin fishing license, and stay out of the way. Because of all of my effort and planning the wedding and reception went off quite well. Tom, my brother-in-law likes to fish out of Racine, Wisconsin. After this last trip with him and his buddy Loren I can certainly see the attraction. We caught several Salmon close to port, and these fish are great on the grill.

While these fish are good sized, and strong they do not take handling very well. Any fish that would have been released would have been lunch for something else in a short time. If you need more details about this long story about a short dog, a big fish, and a wedding I would be glad to elaborate at the next DFC meeting. Hope to see you on the water soon!

Finally, we are starting a fly tying pattern resource. Here's how it works. If you have a favorite pattern, please bring a copy of the tying instructions (one page is best) and a picture of the finished product (or an example of the fly). We will be putting together a binder with copies of the recipe for any member to take with them.

This is your library and any donations or ideas are appreciated. Remember to return the items checked out to keep them in circulation.

## August 19-21 Outing to Greer hosted by Katie and Gary Stuck

**Arrive at Benny Creek Campground Friday, anytime (campground check in 2 pm).** Chat with club members, share your favorite fishing spots and learn about new ones, decide where you want to fish for the rest of the weekend. Plan to fish all day Saturday, or hang around camp, bike, hike and socialize. We have also secured all the spots on X Diamond for anyone that is interested. Plan on having dinner at Molly Butler's Saturday evening. Campfire at camp after dinner. Fish some more on Sunday ^ or hang around camp, bike, hike and socialize. Depart Sunday afternoon, anytime (campground check out 1pm)

Fee to camp at Benny Creek is \$20 and we will be collecting fees at the July meeting. We have 5 spots open for the X Diamond. The fee is \$40 and that also needs to be paid at the meeting. **Any questions call: 480-649-5892... Hope to see you there!**

## Library Update

Daniel Schwartz

### A quick update for the members - new and old.

Books and Videos are available for check out at all the monthly meetings. You must be a member to check out either. We ask for a \$20.00 deposit for all video's checked out.

If you have a favorite book or video tape that you have read and would like to add it to the library. Please bring it along to the next meeting and we will add it to the library for the rest of the membership to enjoy.

 **RE/MAX**  
Excellence  
**Georganne Jannenga**  
CRS, GRS, ABR  
REALTOR Associate Broker  
480/471-4300 (Home Office)  
480/471-4323 (Fax)  
602/325-6388 (Mobile)  
480/348-6346 (Direct)  
1/800/535-6819 Toll Free  
Georganne@Jannenga.com



 **RON THOMAS**  
•Cartooning  
•Caricature  
•Illustrating  
•Fishing Instruction  
3102 E. Northern • Phoenix, AZ 85028  
602-264-2163 (Day)  
602-952-9244 (Night)

 **ORVIS**  
SOUTHERN TRADITIONS  
Since 1912  
**CINDA HOWARD**  
Fishing Manager  
**THE ORVIS COMPANY, INC.**  
7012 E. GREENWAY PARKWAY  
SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA 85264  
PHONE: 480-925-1400 • FAX: 480-925-3088

**DON'S SPORT SHOP**  
• Thomas & Thomas • Lamson • Bucks Bags • G Loomis • Dyna King  
• Scientific Anglers • Islander • Abel • Airflow • 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

 **ROCKY MOUNTAIN Anglers**  
SAN JUAN RIVER  
Navajo Dain, New Mexico  
Phone 970-884-4710  
505-632-0445  
Email: chooley@sprynet.com  
/RICK HENRY • P.O. BOX 6006 • RAYEDO, NM 87415



## Carp and Bass

by Tom Soldat

**For the last few years,** I've enjoyed an early morning bicycle ride along the pathway that runs beside the lakes in the neighborhood south of US60 and west of Dobson Road. (Dobson Ranch)

Although not done every morning, as often as possible for the exercise and to see the water. It's always nice to see the water.

At a good pace, the sound of the tires on the pavement is calming.

As you approach the lake, one starts to look for what's in the H2O.

Several months ago, I observed a large carp, (as long as your arm and as thick as a man's leg) feeding in the shallows.

I slowed up, circled back and leaned on a tree to watch the activity from an elevated perch.

The reason I stopped was the small bass hanging, suspended just a short distance from the carp's right shoulder.

The carp, perhaps pushing 30 inches, was creating a mini "dust storm" underwater searching for food.

The bass, maybe eight inches, was there to take advantage of any small creature escaping the carp. Upon clearing the underwater dust cloud, the bass would ambush any prey that escaped the carp's suction.

Scientists would say a "symbiotic" relationship.

We might say interesting and fun to watch.

Most fishermen, (this term encompasses all who have a rod in their hands and give solid attempt to net fish) like to observe nature, outside what might dictate fishing conditions, like when an Osprey circles an area of a lake, looking to feed.

Of course, fishermen see a neat, winged creature, with excellent command of their environment, seeking the same thing they are.

"Gosh, I wish I could see what that Osprey is seeing!"

Maybe a little like carp and bass.

Not an exact parallel comparison but we observe thinking the area the fish hawk is circling probably holds fish...

Once, from the lakeshore, we saw a garter snake catch and swallow a small minnow. The thing that was interesting is that the snake had to maneuver the small fish so it could be swallowed head first.

Echoes of Bob Clouser....

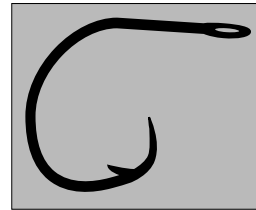
Now, what I want to observe is a bent rod in your hands!

And mine!

## Circle Hooks

by Joe Panfalone

**There has been a lot of recent interest in the circle hook.** Circle hooks are not new. They have been around for centuries as evidenced by ancient artifacts of bones and other primitive materials shaped into a circle hook. Commercial fishermen have used them for decades due to their ability to efficiently catch fish.



The principle behind the hook is simple. The fish swallows the baited hook and starts to swim away. The line tightens slowly and pulls the hook out of the stomach. Since the fish is swimming away, the angle of the line is against the jaw. Due to the recurve of the hook point, as the hook comes forward, it does not catch on anything until it nears the mouth where it rotates and pierces the jaw hinge or cheek.

Once the fish is hooked, it cannot escape. The circle hook is particularly effective for trotlines where there is no fisherman to set the hook. It is not particularly suited for lures and fly-fishing where there is a "strike".

There are mixed reviews among sport fishermen. Those that favor the circle hook have learned to change their technique of fishing. Success depends on NOT setting the hook like we do with the traditional "J" hook. You must fish with a slack line allowing the fish to swim away with the bait.

Conservationists are urging the use of circle hooks for bait fishing because the design usually results in a hook through the jaws or lips. This increases the fish's chance of survival after release.

The American Fisheries Society has published a scientific study comparing hook-ups and mortality. The study concluded circle hook were as effective in hook-ups as the "J" hooks. In addition, the use of circle hooks resulted in lower rates of deep hooking, foul hooking, and bleeding providing better survival for catch and release. You can read the entire summary at this website: [http://www.billfishnetwork.com/article/A059\\_CircleHookSummary.asp](http://www.billfishnetwork.com/article/A059_CircleHookSummary.asp)

In summary, circle hooks may have little use for us fly fishermen but it certainly would benefit to the trout if the bait fishermen would use circle hooks with their corn and cheese balls.

*Joe Panfalone is a Life member of the Buckeye United Fly Fishers and has been published nationally and internationally.*

**EDITOR'S NOTES:** If my memory serves me correctly I remember during the early part of the Clouser presentation Bob discussed briefly the "circle hook."

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 8032, Marble Canyon, AZ 86036  
520-355-2245

ROCKY'S CUSTOM SADDLERY

**Rocky Minster**  
CUSTOM SADDLEMAKER

120 E. PARK AVE.  
GILBERT, AZ 85254 (480) 926-4137

**ARIZONA FLYFISHING**  
Tempe

31 West Baseline • Tempe, AZ 85283  
480-730-6800 • fax: 480-730-0735  
e-mail: flyfish@azflyfishing.com  
www.azflyfishing.com

**Nickel Chiropractic Center**  
100 S. Cooper  
Chandler, AZ 85225

**DR. WAYNE R. NICKEL**  
Chiropractic Physician

Phone: 919-4006  
Emergencies 857-8780

Hours: Sat. 8:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Sun. 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

phone: 480-468-2261

**Robert McKeon Design**  
An Advertising Communications Design Studio  
Graphic Design & Ad Invention

<http://www.rmckdesign.com>

LAW OFFICE OF DALE R. THORSON, P.C.  
31 S. 47th Street, Suite 2  
Mesa, AZ 85206

Estate Planning  
Basic Will Packages  
Living Trusts  
Income Tax Preparation  
Business Estates  
Real Estate  
Probates  
Family Law—Adoptions

**Dale R. Thorson**  
Attorney, CPA

Phone: 480-541-3300  
Fax: 480-867-1099  
Email: [dale@dalethorson.com](mailto:dale@dalethorson.com)  
Website: [www.dalethorson.com](http://www.dalethorson.com)

**AMBASSADOR**  
GUIDE'S SERVICES, INC.

**Bill McBurney**  
OWNER  
1-800-256-7596  
For Details

**DESERT SPORTSMAN**  
A Celebration of the Sporting Life

Matthew Baker  
Telephone 480-368-9280

10050 North Scottsdale Road • Suite 101 • Scottsdale, Arizona 85253  
Fax 480-368-8915 • [www.desertsportsman.com](http://www.desertsportsman.com)

**2005 DESERT FLY CASTERS  
BOARD OF DIRECTORES**

Cinda Howard- *President*  
Bill Thyng- *Vice President*  
Chuck Elliot- *Treasurer*  
Open- *Secretary*

Outings-  
*Vince Deadmond*  
Programs  
*Rocky Minster*  
Retail

*Gerry Wiemelt*  
Membership  
*Dave Weaver*  
Education  
*Tom Soldat*

TU/FFF/WCC:  
*Eric Larsen*

Videos & Books  
*Dan Schwartz*  
Conservation  
*Eric Larsen*

Raffles  
*Doc Nickel*

Newsletter Editor/Graphics Guru  
*Robert McKeon*

Website Guru  
*Ted Miskinns-*

Membership at Large  
*Jim Fraijo*

*Jim Dickson*  
*Jay Figley*

DESERT FLY CASTERS HOT LINE  
**480-654-6111**

Web Address Site  
[www.desertflycasters.com](http://www.desertflycasters.com)

**2005 DFC OUTINGS**

July 29-31 Lee's Ferry  
Aug. 19-21 Greer, Arizona • *Hosted by Katie and Gary Stuck*  
Sept 3-8 San Felipe Mexico  
Oct 1-4 San Juan River, NM  
Oct 28-31 Steelhead, MI  
Nov 10-13 Puerto Penasco  
Dec 14 DFC Christmas Banquet

*Notice... the TBA outings with no date attached, this would be a perfect opportunity for you to pick the place and be the host. If you would like to host an outing give me a call. 480-982-7461 B or 480-984-4698 H.*

**DFC AUGUST MEETING**

Wednesday, August 10, 2005

**NO DINNER**

Meeting at 7:00 PM

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

**FLY TYING CLINIC AT THE AUGUST MEETING...  
TIPS FROM VETERAN TIERS, PLUS, A FEW STORIES!**

*Come and enjoy the camaraderie!*

 MAIL TO:

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

