

FORWARD CASTS

DESERT FLY CASTERS A BARBLESS CLUB



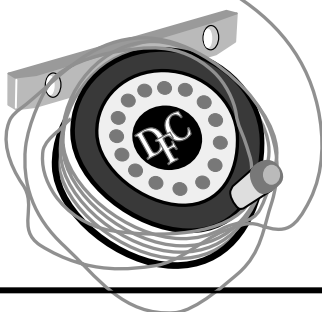
JANUARY MEETING:

**Wednesday,
FEBRUARY 8, 2006**

NOTE: NO DINNER
Meeting- 7:00 PM

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

You must lose a fly to
catch a trout
GEORGE HERBERT (1631)



Presidents Report- February 2006

Our first tying session went off without a hitch! It was really nice getting together with other members and tying flies. The plan is to have a session each month and we will post in the newsletter where and when it will take place. Each month we will pick a couple of flies to tie and will post the materials that you will need to bring. The goal is to learn something new, learn new skills, and/or just get together and have fun. Look for the details on the February tying session further in the newsletter.

Hopefully by now you have noticed that we have a new website. This is an interactive site that is forum based. Once you join, send me a message or e-mail and I will give you access to the "Members Only" board. The front page of the site will constantly be updated with current events and messages from the club. If you want to know what DFC has planned, click on the "Calendar". You can look at each month and see upcoming outings, programs, education classes, etc. Also, feel free to post messages. You can post about anything that is flyfishing related. If you want to view pictures from our outings, click on "Album". Once you click on the outing you want to view, you will see small pictures. Click on them and they get larger. There are many of us that are on the site daily checking messages, updating events, etc. Hopefully you will join us and become active on our new website!

At the January meeting, we found out that the American Legion Hall can no longer serve us dinner. This has something to do with new laws or new health codes or something else that I don't really comprehend. What this means is that the meeting will start at 7:00 with no dinner beforehand. Please feel free to come early and socialize, buy raffle tickets, hang out etc. You can bring your own food; they just can't serve us.

At the January meeting, a new member, Tyler Stone, volunteered to be our new programs chairman. If you know someone that might want to do a program for us, please let Tyler know. We are still in desperate need of someone to head up our conservation efforts. Conservation is a very important part of this club and something that we need to stay involved in. Please let me know if you feel that you can fill this board position.

The International Sportsman's Expo will be the weekend of March 10th, 11th and 12th. Again, we will be asking for volunteers to man our booth and help judge the casting competition. Look for a sign-up sheet at the meeting.

According to the Apache Sitgreaves Website, road 273 from Sunrise Lake to Big Lake will be closed all summer for paving. This means that Winn Campground will be closed. Since that is where we hold the White Mountain Extravaganza, we are currently in the process of finding a new camping area that offers group sites. We will keep you posted.

We have a great program planned for you in February! Hope to see you at the meeting.

Cinda

DFC FEBRUAY MEETING....

Our Program for February will be *Jeff Solis and Jeff DeBrown from The Reel Baja* giving a presentation on flyfishing Baja, Mexico. They offer trips for Marlin, Rooster Fish, Dorado, and Tuna. For more info on their trips, you can visit them on the web at www.thereelbaja.com.

NOTE: There will be NO dinner due to new laws/health codes at American Legion Hall

Have you seen our new website?
If not, check us out at:
www.desertflycasters.com

MEMBERSHIP 2006

When I took over the Membership Board position my 2 main thoughts were membership growth and retention. In order to fulfill both of these the Board has approved the following for 2006. You the membership can help me by participating in your club.

1. Membership drive will be Jan – April. All member renewals and new memberships will be entered into a raffle for the below. This year the grand prize will be the rod of your choice built by Dave Weaver. Winner picks out number pieces, weight & length for Dave to build. If winner is interested they can work with Dave to build the rod. Get your renewal in early so your name is in all the monthly drawings. You must be present for the monthly drawing for 12 raffle tickets but do not have to be present for the grand prize rod of your choice. If not present at the April meeting you will be notified if you won the rod.

- a. Jan – 12 raffle tickets
- b. Feb – 12 raffle tickets
- c. Mar – 12 raffle tickets
- d. April – 12 raffle tickets & Rod

2. This year there will be an incentive for sponsoring new members. Any current club member that sponsors a new member into the club will receive 12 raffle tickets at the monthly meeting the new member pays their dues. Already this year we have 13 new members.

3. This year the monthly news letter will have a section for Membership Status. It will show the current number of club members and list the names of all new members for that month. At each meeting we will introduce our new club members.

4. This is where I really need your help. This is your club and I want to ensure we are doing everything possible to make it your club. You are the ones that pay dues and support the year-end and monthly raffles. I would like to hear from you as to what you think the club can do to make it more enjoyable for the members. If you have any ideas you can e-mail me or see me or any club officer and tell us about you ideas. We will discuss it at our next board meeting and get back to you.

Charlie Rosser, *Membership Chairman DFC*
480-586-7163
Chasr123@cox.net

From The Loop – Spring 1997

Pete's Tool Box

by Pete Caverhill

Good fly casting instruction should offer a variety of “tweaks” to the student’s senses. Finding simple and understandable verbal, visual, and tactile techniques to achieve this is the instructor’s challenge. To that end, I’ve filled a Rubbermaid “suitcase” to hernia-inducing levels with paraphernalia to help explain different elements of fly casting. The following is a list of some of those items.

SCALE MODEL CASTING LOOPS

(a “Pete Caverhill basement original”)

I make my casting loop models from inexpensive, vinyl-coated, wire coat hangers (preferably in bright colors). A few moments of snipping and bending will produce nifty scale representations of narrow, wide, and tailing loops (or any grotesque configuration you may desire to portray). I mount these models into short pieces of one-inch diameter dowel rods, and then glue them onto a flat piece of wood or plastic so they’ll stand on a tabletop. They provide an easily-handled, three-dimensional representation of casting loops that otherwise might be difficult for a student to see during a demo, or to interpret from a flat drawing or verbal explanation.

FLY ROD HANDLES

The “tool box” contains five or six of these, which I have scrounged from shops that repair fly rods (they have the reel seat, cork handle, and a short portion of the rod butt section). These handles are useful for explaining rod grip, but are particularly good for “pantomime” casting exercises. The students use the handles

to pantomime the essential elements of the cast, which may have been lost while using a full rod and line set-up. “Casting” with the handles gives students something tangible to use, and can help make students feel less self-conscious than would pantomiming with a pen or nothing at all.

SCREWDRIIVER

This is a good drink to serve mid-session. No, no—just kidding! Actually, I use a screwdriver as an analogy to explain how to comfortably and effectively grip the rod handle. In addition, it’s just a good tool to have in case of any equipment problems.

ROLL OF MASKING TAPE

This may be a bit controversial, but I feel that it works for the purpose intended. I use the masking tape to aid beginning casters who have problems with “over wringing.”

When wrist problems persist, I will temporarily bind the student’s wrist to the reel seat, reinforcing the idea that a controlled wrist is required (just remember to be careful of potential arm-hair loss.) I also try to make the situation as humorous as possible, so as to make sure no one equates getting a “taping” with being made to stand in a corner. I’ve found that most beginning casters will break the tape after a bit of casting, which further emphasizes to them the need to concentrate on wrist control.

Well, there’s a quick peek inside “Pete’s Tool Box.” Such tools not only make casting instruction more fun, but offer new and effective ways to explain the same old basics.

Try one or all during your next teaching session—they can help your students get the fly casting “picture” in short order.

February Tying Session

The January tying session was a great success! We had an excellent turnout. Many thanks to Bill Thyng for letting us use his place.

The February session will be on Wednesday, February 22nd at 7:00 PM at the Mesa Country Club. The Mesa Country Club does have a dress code and they ask that no one show up in cutoffs, tanks tops, etc. Their address is 660 W. Fairway Drive, Mesa, AZ 85201. Their phone number is (480) 964-1797. Fairway Drive is south of McKellips off of Country Club.

At this session, we will focus on local patterns such as the Arizona Peacock Lady and the Sunrise Special. You will need to bring size 10 and 12 2x long hooks, peacock, grizzly hackle, brown hackle, gold beads, golden pheasant died red or orange, and red feathers (for tail material).

If you have any questions, you can call Cinda at (480) 217-5089. We hope to see you there!

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....from Gerry Wiemelt's Fly Bench

BILL'S GLASS-EYED DAMSEL

(#16 TMC-100 hook)
Olive or brown marabou
Olive or brown 8/0 thread
Midge flash
Gold glass beads (2mm or 0.080")
30 lb mono

1. TO FORM EYES - Darken a 10"-12" piece of 30 lb test mono with a black magic marker. Melt the end (I like to use a candle) to form a ball, then press it against metal to flatten it slightly. Thread on as many glass beads as you want to use. Melt the other end & flatten. Slide 2 beads to the end & cut mono about 1/4" past the 2 beads. Melt & flatten both cut ends. You now have one set of eyes. Repeat with the rest of the beads.
2. On the de-barbed hook lay a 2-3 layer 8/0 thread (color to match marabou) base for the

eyes. Tie in glass eyes, leaving room by the hook eye to tie off the marabou. Glue the eyes.
3. Wind thread to rear of hook, tie in a small bundle of marabou, using 2 wraps of thread. Extend marabou one hook length beyond the bend. Dampen marabou for easier handling.
4. Tie in 3-5 strands on midge flash. Fold flash back and tie down, leaving 6-10 strands in the tail. Cut unevenly, slightly longer than the marabou.
5. Tie in the second half of the marabou.
6. Twist the two pieces of marabou together slightly. Wrap them forward, finishing by going over the top side of the eyes. Tie down in front of the eyes and glue.
7. Bug out marabou using a piece of hooked Velcro.
8. Fish with the rod tip in the water, hand/strip setting only. (not rod setting!)



DFC MEMBERSHIP STATUS

2005 - 122 • 2006 - 43

Renew your 2006 membership and be entered into a raffle for 12 raffle tickets for the Feb, Mar and April monthly raffle and to be entered into the grand prize raffle in April of a fly rod of your choice.

NEW MEMBERS Dec 2005 & Jan 2006

David Hwang • John O'Leary • Mike Reed
Stephanie Wang • Jonathan Yu • Don Martin
Donna Hatheway • Jim Corlett • Glay Stahel
Paul Dicken • Tyler Stone • Jim Parsons
Rom Marlow • William Cullins

Spring Rod Building Class

Now you can build that small stream, lake or saltwater rod you have always wanted. Dave Weaver already has several club members signed up for this class. This rod building process is easier than you think. Join us. The DFC board has authorized the purchase of 3 complete rod building kits for the upcoming class. Dave has more if needed. Call Dave, sign up and he will walk you through how to choose your rod blank, guides, reel seat, handle, thread of choice etc; order and receive your components before the classes begin in late February. Actual dates for the four classes will depend on what week nights the majority find favorable to meet.

Email - dweaver16@cox.net Cell Phone - 480-495-2983

It is possible that nice guys don't catch the most fish. But they find far more pleasure in those they do get.

Roderick Haig-Brown (1960)

phone: 480-460-2261




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DESERT FLY CASTERS HOT LINE
480-654-6111
Web Address Site

2006 DFC OUTINGS

MARCH OUTING • PICNIC

Just an early reminder that the March outing will be a club picnic at Desert Breeze Park in Chandler, the club will be providing the main course for the picnic which will consist of various food items cooked by club members in Dutch Ovens (anyone willing to do some Dutch Oven cooking please contact me as soon as possible), everyone else please bring a side dish or a desert and what ever you would like to drink. We will be doing some casting so bring your rods. Also please note that we do not have a permit for alcoholic beverages

Date: March 11, 2006

Location: Desert Breeze Park (Palo Verde Pavilion)
660 N. Desert Breeze Blvd. E.

Time: 10:00 am till 4:00 pm

Bill Thyng, *Outings Chairman*

Check out this DFC Newsletter for details
March Picnic
February Tying Session
Spring Rod Building Class
MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

MAIL TO: 



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