

SEPTEMBER 2016

FORWARD CASTS

OFFICIAL DESERT FLY CASTERS NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER
Wednesday,
September 14, 2016

Set-Up at 6:00

Doors Open at: 7:00 PM

Elks Lodge
1775 West Chandler Blvd.
Chandler, Arizona 85224



Catch our DFC September issue...



SEPTEMBER DFC CLUB MEETING...



Captain Peter Scafaru, C.I. • Fly Fishing The Marsh
Southern Louisiana is home to the richest marshlands in North America and consistently puts up the largest numbers of fish of any state in the Gulf Coast. Sight fishing fly anglers can target a number of species year round. Learn the ins and outs of tackle, technique, fish species, bait species and flies with a local guide.

Join in with the rest of the DFC Trout Bums, on:

Wednesday, • September 14, 2016

Come meet-up with us Trout Bums...6:00 Dinner... 7:00 Club Meeting, followed by your monthly program along with fun and raffle prizes!

Every true fisherman understands that the joy of fishing lies in its mystery.



DFC MISSION STATEMENT

To advance the sport of fly fishing in Arizona through education, conservation and community outreach efforts by:

- *Providing Education classes and clinics on fly fishing, fly casting, fly tying, rod building and other associated skills*
- *Committing to conserve, restore, and enhance local and regional fisheries*
- *Making fishing approachable, enjoyable and safe in family friendly environment*
- *Promoting responsible angling practices*

CATCH US HERE:

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www.desertflycasters.com

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PLAN YOUR ROCKY POINT TRIP NOV. 2-7 2016

Trip Tips from R/P Guru-Vince Deadmond...

When - Most of the time it's good in Puerto Penasco, with November/October being the best time, April/May also being good. Summer July 4-Labor Day is too hot for many folks. I like to plan on a neap tide, (smaller tides) easier to pontoon boat.

Must Have - Mexican Auto Insurance, purchase online, or stop in Ajo, AZ, you must have your passport. You will not need a fishing permit unless you are in a real boat, (pontoon boats don't count). Do wear your PDF.

Puerto Penasco is Safe - more murders and crime occurs in Phoenix everyday than happens in Puerto Penasco in a year. The road from Lukeville/Sonoyta is a good blacktop road to Rocky Point and takes about one hour to drive.

Restaurants - There are 120 restaurants in RP. Everything from humble taco cart to the very elegant Food Network kind of place. DFC favorites include Capone's, La Curva, El Capitan, and too many to list here.

Places to Stay - Playa de Oro RV Park, (\$25 per night) I have kept a trailer here for years and it's my home base. Hotel El Mirador is next to the RV Park for those who don't want to camp. Condos on the beach are another option, plan to book early. Most of our social and educational events are at the RV Park. Sandy Beach has some five star resorts, and hotels.

Good to know - The Rocky Point Times good source of local news and information, free around town and on the internet. Also good to know - your bank card will work in the local ATM machines in Mexico.

Places to Fish - Mirador Beach at the RV Park is a good place to start, the first and second estuary are excellent places to fish, as well as the jetty, and Cholla Bay. You can fish from shore, but generally you can do better in your inflatable pontoon boat. I suggest that you get a stainless steel or aluminum frame pontoon boat. We have had failures with steel frame boats not designed for saltwater. Again it's a good idea to wear your PDF. Learn where to fish by walking the beach at different times of the day, this will give you some idea of the structure that may attract fish. Note, rock piles, and drop offs are good places to fish when they have water over them. The tide change can be as much as 20 feet or as little as 6 feet, that will make a difference on where you want to fish.

The Catch - I have caught over 30 different species of fish in the Sea of Cortez at Puerto Penasco. The most common are Cabrilla, Trigger, Orange Mouth Corvina, Pompano, Parrot, Grouper, Flounder, Bone Fish, Grunt, and Sierra Mackerel.

Basic Fly Fishing Equipment - Minimum 6 weight rod, an 8 weight is the rod of choice. You will want a 200 grain sinking line for your 6 weight, a 300 grain for your 7 weight, and a 400 grain for your 8 weight. My most used fly is a #4 Clouser Minnow. Good colors are white, chartreuse over white, red, yellow, pink, and tan have all been the hot fly of the day at different times. November is still too hot for waders, but a fishing shirt, swim trunks, lots of sun block, a hat, and polarized sun glasses are all good to have. Don't forget to bring your floating line and some poppers, that can be fun with Pompano.

Build your own leader. I like to fish two Clousers, and I find these fish are not leader shy. Many times I am bouncing the Clousers deep on the rocks below me, so getting hung up in the rocks is more of a problem with a light tippet. My go to system is a 50, 40, 30, 25, and 20 pound mono line, double nail knotted and finished in 15 inch segments. The 20 pound section I will leave longer and usually use fluorocarbon. I will tie the second fly off the bend of the first hook, it is not unusual to catch two fish at a time.

Up Grade Your Game - while a 30 foot cast will catch a few fish you will want to master the "Double Haul" and cast further. Check the You Tube videos on the internet, then get with a casting instructor. Better casters do catch more fish.



additional Rocky Point Trip Tips ...continued page 4

Sage Factory Tour

by
**Carl
Rutherford**



Questions?
Catch me, Carl at:
carlruthe@gmail.com

Fellow DFC'er Dick Murphy and I toured the Sage Factory on Bainbridge Island in Washington State. This is about an hour drive from my home. We both have Sage rods and have built rods in Dave Weaver's courses. The tour is free and can be reserved by telephone. In our tour, there were two other men present. A young man, Jesse who works in R and D, conducted our tour. We started where the sheets of graphite are cut into shapes to be made into blanks by a machine. We watched as workers in separate stations went through the many steps to make each blank. We proceeded through each step of the process through the factory with Jesse explaining each step and answering questions. The last stop was the large warranty area where repairs to old rods were being processed. During our tour we noticed that there were many quality control check stations. A few observations were made during the tour. First, no consideration for the spine/spline was made. They felt it was more important to have all the fibers in the graphite lined up than caring about the spine. The second was their use of a large flame on the rod just after the epoxy was applied to burn off stick-ups. We found the entire tour fascinating and well done. We ended the tour outside the factory at their stocked pond where staff members on break were casting for small mouth.

After the tour I brought my old two piece XP in from my car. I asked them to replace two temporary guides that I had put on and to look at my cork grip. They told me that they would replace the two guides with the originals, but they needed to build a new butt section because of the problem with grip. They then arranged to have it ready for me before I left for Arizona (less than a month). The cost was \$0.

Dick and I agreed that the experience was well worth the trip. We also thought that the each employee we met was enthusiastic and helpful. Sage also owns RIO and Reddington. There is a UTube video, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Roqkr8_Bg00, regarding the tour. The video is a little dated, as some of the steps have changed (the computer controlled cutting of the graphite patterns).

Carl Rutherford
August 2016



SAN JUAN RIVER TRIP - Thank you to everyone who signed up, we have 20 people going to the river this year and it will be a great time. We have 10 on Monday the 19th and 10 on Thursday the 22nd. Everyone in the Thursday group needs to bring a present, that is my birthday (OK just say happy birthday). Please make sure your fee is paid in full (\$595.00) by the September meeting. We will get together for a quick meeting at the meeting so hope most of you can be there. If anyone else wants to make this trip call me right away, we may still be able to get you on the trip. This is guided with two days on a drift boat so you don't need waders unless you intend to fish after we get off the boats. All flies provided by the guide and lunch on the river.

Any questions or problems call me 602-451-9459.

Upcoming Educational DFC Event...

Project Healing Waters DFC joint Outing September 17th

This event will be hands on fishing with support from DFC members at 4 golf course ponds.

Additional information?? Catch Kristen Kile at: kilekristen@yahoo.com

Date: September 17th (Saturday)

Time: 6am to 10:30 with Lunch following

Location: The Links at Queen Creek

Host: Kristen Kile • kilekristen@yahoo.com



Fly Fishing Tips For Beginners

By Pearl O. Wisdum

Color-Code Flies...

If you fish nymphs or other wet flies, you have probably tied some with weight added to the hook in order to get down deeper or more quickly. In a crowded fly box, it is difficult

to keep flies separated by pattern, let alone by those that are weighted or unweighted.

A simple way to make stream-side fly selection quick and easy is to tie your nymphs using different thread colors. Color coding can also be used to indicate normal weighting or extra-heavy weighting.

A good code is black for unweighted and yellow for extra-heavy weight. If the thread color is likely to effect the appearance of the finished fly, use color on the head only.

additional Rocky Point Trip Tips ...Vince Deadmond



Improve your Skill Set - the next thing to learn is the "strip strike" again videos are available on the internet, but the actual fishing practice is the key to perfection. The great thing about Puerto Penasco is that you get many bites, so you can practice this technique. Fishing with a buddy who has mastered the technique is also helpful. Observe someone who has the double haul and the strip strike down and you will be watching a fish catching machine.

What about stingrays? Shuffle your feet when you are wading, this will spook most stingrays. If you get stung, cover the bite with hot water, the pain will go away in about 30 minutes. If you have vinegar, rinse the bite with it, apply baking soda paste, this is also good for jelly fish stings. Getting stung with a scorpion fish will require medical treatment, there are many good medical clinics in Puerto Penasco.

If you can get on the water you will probably catch fish, but if it's too windy, or storming you should have a plan "B". Bring books, music, games, or plan to be a tourist until you can get on the water. Your return trip will take longer than your trip down, (more check points) generally everyone tries to leave at the same time. Generally Sunday afternoon is not a good time to leave, or Monday if it's a holiday weekend. Plan to leave early in the day or the day after the big event.

Useful numbers - Playa de Oro RV Park 602 476 2242, Hotel El Mirador 480 626 5841, Sea Side Reservations (condos, and homes for rent) 480 282 8608. Make your reservations early, if you are staying at the RV Park ask to be next to other DFC members if you would like. Vince Deadmond The Fly Fishing Hardware Guy - vince@ajbest.com 480 982 7461.

AUGUST OUTING



by Vince Deadmond

Vince Deadmond, "The Fly Fishing Hardware Guy", is co-owner of Best Hardware in Apache Junction, AZ. He is an enthusiastic, caffeinated, fly fisher in search of a really good cookie. His fly fishing stories are published on the web, in local newspapers and magazines. His stories tangle family, friends, and fly lines.



parts of their fly fishing game.

The Lower Salt River has 11 miles of fishable water from Stewart Mountain Dam to the Granite Reef Dam. It is close to civilization, but you feel like you have left the city behind. It is a great class room to work on fly fishing lessons. I was fortunate to be the host of the August outing and have a really good group with a great attitude. I would like to thank everyone for their patience and willingness to learn some new knots, techniques, and work on their casting and other

The river was running at a very full stage and was more difficult to fish. I would like to encourage everyone who was at the outing to come back and fish the Salt when the water is more manageable. Some of you were getting your flies down enough to snag swim trunks, towels, and other lost items in the river. A few fish were caught, and I think some folks managed to improve their fly fishing techniques.

It started to warm up around 9 AM and the kayak hatch was starting to get thick. Several of us got together at an East Mesa saloon/cafe where there was a prolific hatch of bar flies. Fish stories were told, questions were addressed, and plans made to fish again. I would like to thank everyone who made the August outing a good one. Hope to see you on the water soon.

ALONG THE OUTER BANKS

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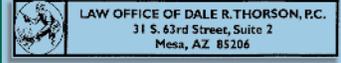
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(800) 962-9755
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E-mail: anglers@leesferry.com
Web Page: http://leesferry.com

**FREE Fly Casting Lessons
for DFC Members**



Doug Bobb CFI
dougbo56@gmail.com
480-212-6540

September Intermediate Tying Session

Date: Wednesday September 28, 2016

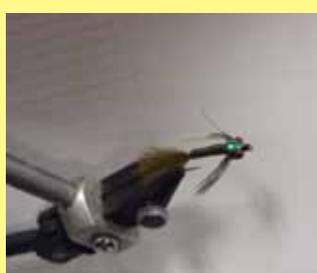
Location: Redden Construction, Inc's Office at 4131 E. Wood St.
Major cross roads are Broadway and 40th Street

Time: 6:30pm to 9:00 pm • **Contact:** Tom Horvath 602.768.7280

The left side nymph is an all purpose attractor nymph used year long for trout. It has been effective at Drift Fence, Sunrise and most White Mountain Lakes. Good results with this fly also at Dead Horse Park.
The right pattern is an adult Damsel good wherever adult Blue Damsels are active.



Pattern sheet
Hook: Standard dry fly
Thread: 6/0 Blue
Eyes: Burnt mono
Body: Rainy damsel body
Hackle: Cream or Badger
Legs: Mini Rubber
Thorax: Damsel blue dub



Pattern sheet
Hook: 200R size 12
Thread: Black 6/0
Eyes: Glass beads and mono
Tail: Green Marabou
Body: Small D-rib vinyl
Wing case: mylar gift wrap
Thorax: Peacock herl
Legs: Hen Hackle brown

Bring your tools or give me a heads-up if you need them and materials provided by Tom Horvath and DFC.

If you have questions or need to use club's tying tool kit, catch Tom Horvath at 602-768-7280.

Club Shirt Embroidered



REMINDER...Puerto Penasco, Mexico • November 3-7, 2016.

Last Call! Turn in your long or short sleeve fishing shirt at the September DFC meeting along with \$15 for an embroidered Rocky Point shirt. Vince will be collecting shirts and money.

NOTE: Also with the announcement the folks should identify their shirt with brief description (large, blue, Columbia long sleeve fishing shirt) Their name and phone number. The cost per shirt will be \$15 payable when you turn in shirt.

Questions?? Catch me, Vince at: vince@ajbest.com or- 480 818 1796

DFC Conservation UPDATE September 2016

Questions? Additional information catch me, Joe Miller, Trout Bum at: jam@prairietriz.com



DFC President Gentry Smith has submitted comments on the 4 FRI Rim Country EIS Proposed Action. This EIS covers some 1.24 Million Acres across the Mogollon Rim, with many of our favorite streams slated for Stream Habitat Restoration to support their resident fish and aquatic species. The DFC Board voted to submit supportive comments during the scoping period, and the comments sent in urged the US Forest Service to help improve our fisheries and the valuable waters we have in the Rim Country as an integral part of that project.

The comments letter recounted DFC's longtime history of work on stream conservation throughout the state, our cooperative efforts with both the AZGFD and with other fishing organizations, emphasized the value of the Mogollon Rim streams to us, and specifically asked the forest service to fully consider all ephemeral, intermittent, and perennial streams in the project footprint for restoration with a flexible "Toolbox" approach.

Pre- and Post-treatment monitoring for the streams was also requested, with particular attention to be paid to the aquatic food-base in all those streams, together with stream temperature profiles.

Copies of the DFC Comments letter will be available at the September DFC meeting.



We saw a summary of Arizona Game and Fish Department's Proposed Fishing Regulation changes for Aquatics Chief Chris Cantrell back in July. He highlighted changes for the Lees Ferry Rainbow Trout Fishery to reduce the harvest and extend the lower walk in boundary and for the Frye Reservoir Gila Trout Fishery to minimize harvest of those trout, but to still be able to take a small number of Gilas. The DFC Board voted to support those changes and a letter expressing that support has been sent to the

Arizona Game and Fish Commission asking they consider and approve the proposal. *The full Commission letter will be available at the September DFC meeting.*

August Swap Meet...

Friends gathered to swap merchandise and stories with fellow DFC Trout Bums. The yearly casual gathering that we all look forward to in August. Nice time by all and nice to see members we hadn't seen in a while.



RIO SALADO CASTING CLUB MEETUP

(Note: October & December)

Meet-Up is at McQueen Park & Recreation Field

Looking to improve your fly casting skills?

Desert Fly Casters (www.DesertFlyCasters.com) is partnering with the *Rio Salado Casting Club (RSCC)* to host an ongoing series of free fly casting events at Gilbert's McQueen Park. International Fly Fishing Federation (IFFF) Certified Fly Casting Instructors will be on hand to work with casters of all skill levels—beginners, intermediate and advanced casters are all welcome to attend this informal casting meetup.

Event highlights:

- Beginning casting instruction
- Intermediate casting instruction
- Tournament casting instruction
- Two-handed / Spey casting instruction

Scheduled event Dates: October 29, 2016 and December 17, 2016

Event Time: 9am – noon | Event Cost: This is a free event

Event Location: *McQueen Park Recreation Field (Located on the east side of McQueen Road, between Elliott and Guadalupe)*

Items to bring:

- Sunglasses/eyeglasses
- Hat
- Sunscreen
- Drinking water
- Fly rod/reel/line/leader

Event Host: Larry Allen, IFFF Master Casting Instructor • Contact Email: flatsman@cox.net

Please RSVP to flatsman@cox.net and include "RSCC Fly Casting" in the subject line.

We're starting up again this Fall ...Come improve your Casting Skills with us!



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OUTINGS- 2016

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL EVENT

Healing Waters- Come fish with us...
September 17th (Saturday) • 6:00 am to 10:30 with Lunch following
The Links at Queen Creek
Host: Kristen Kile • kilekristen@yahoo.com



SEPTEMBER OUTING

San Juan River Fishing Trip
September 22, 23, and 24, 2016
Host: Billy Wingo at: 602-451-9459 or catch me at: billy.wingo@phoenix.gov

See ya Wednesday...
September 14, 2016



MAIL TO: 

Desert Fly Casters
PO Box 6404
Chandler, AZ 85246

