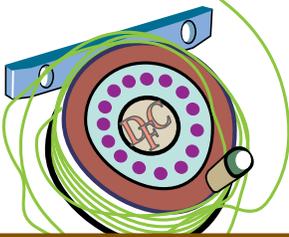


# FORWARD CASTS

OFFICIAL DESERT FLY CASTERS NEWSLETTER



**AUGUST**  
**Wednesday,**  
**August 9, 2017**  
Chit-Chat & Dinner: 6:00  
Meeting/Guest Speaker: 7:00  
Elks Lodge  
1775 West Chandler Blvd.  
Chandler, Arizona 85224



## President's Drift

Frank Schettino • August 2017



**Its the dog days of summer and its HOT.** We DFC'ers love to fish, so where do you fish when its this hot. Well head north. Some DFC'ers did just that. Our July outing is to Durango Colorado where its a bit cooler.

Its August and that also means its our annual swap meet (see flyer in this newsletter for all the details). Go through your closets, garage, storage units or that secret place you hide your fishing stuff you don't want your signifiant other to find. Bring it to the swap meet and trade it, sell it to another DFC'er. The club will also have a table where you purchase books and videos from the club library.

As I mentioned, its summer so its hot, take precautions to drink plenty of fluids and stay hydrated. Its also monsoon season and that means pop up thunderstorms, dust storms, ha-boobs and flash floods. So whether you're hiking in to your favorite stream, boating on one of the beautiful lakes our state has, please be careful. Carry enough water, take your pfd along for the ride and check the weather forecast. The weather can and will change without notice. Fishing is a great adventure, I want you to return from your adventure so you can share your stories and photos of your great adventure with your fellow trout bums.

In case you didn't know, August 15 is National Relaxation Day, a national holiday. What better way to relax than to go fishing. And now you know. Grab your gear and GO!

**See you at the swap meet.**

*Tight lines,*  
**Frank Schettino**



### 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:

**Desert Fly Casters Web Site**  
[www.desertflycasters.com](http://www.desertflycasters.com)

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Frank Schettino  
[sketno1026@hotmail.com](mailto:sketno1026@hotmail.com)

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**News Letter**  
Robert McKeon  
[rmckeon2@cox.net](mailto:rmckeon2@cox.net)

## DFC Outings to keep in mind...



### SENECA LAKE OUTING Saturday, August 12, 2017

**Fees:** A San Carlos fishing permit and an annual habitat stamp  
**Hosted Outing Leader:** Joe Staller  
**Phone:** 602-568-9431  
**Email:** [joestaller@yahoo.com](mailto:joestaller@yahoo.com)

**Meeting Time:**  
8:00 a.m. at the Lake  
**Meeting Location:** Seneca Lake  
**Max. # Attendees:** No limit

*Additional info from Joe Staller see page 7*



### SAN JUAN RIVER TRIP

It's time to get ready for the San Juan River. Great trip last year that everyone enjoyed a good time and lots of fish. We are offering a split trip again this year because it worked so well last year. **Arrive on Monday September 18th and fish Tuesday and Wednesday. Arrive on Thursday September 21st and fish Friday and Saturday.** Two days guided fishing and 3 nights lodging, double occupancy. Always the possibility of catching the fish of a lifetime. This years trip is \$615.00 per person and we will begin to sign up at the June meeting.

**Catch me, Billy Wingo at: 602-451-9459**  
if you have questions.

## DFC ANNUAL ROCKY POINT EXTRAVAGAZA



Put saltwater fly fishing on that bucket list, come along and join the DFC Trout Bums for their 54th annual Pescador Extravaganza in Puerto Penasco, Mexico.

**Wednesday, October 25 - Monday, October 30, 2017**

*Additional info Vince on page 6*

# THE PROBLEM WITH COLOR

by  
Neil Travis  
Aug 1, 2016

If you have ever tried your hand at artistic painting you are aware that color is a complex subject. There are large thick books that drone on and on about color theory, and college level classes that delve, with great detail, into the intricacies of color. You learn that color can be transparent, translucent, opaque, reflective and refractive. It's affected by the intensity and direction of light, and even the angle of the viewer affect the appearance of color.

Color has three properties: hue, value and Chroma. Hue is that property by which we distinguish one color from another. Value is that property by which we distinguish darkness from lightness of any hue. Chroma is the property by which we distinguish brightness or dullness of any hue; and is often confused with value. So, we have the basic hue [color] which has a value [lite or dark] and Chroma [bright or dull] and each one affects the way we perceive color.

What does all this have to do with fly fishing? If you're a person that believes that your fly has to be just the right color it means everything. If you're a generalist that believes size, shape and presentation are more important than color then it means very little to you. If, like myself, you find yourself somewhere in the middle color theory, as it pertains to artificial flies, is an interesting side note.

If you are a fly angler that fishes predominately for salmonoids, trout, steelhead, salmon, then you're aware that the hatches and the flies used to imitate them are closely tied to color. We have blue-winged olives, gray, yellow, brown and green drakes, tan, black, gray and green caddis, yellow sallies, and midges in nearly every color in the rainbow. To complicate the matter even further we have shades [values] of these colors - lite, medium and dark shades [values] of each of the colors that we perceive and combinations; for example: yellowish-olive.

In 1924 J.W. Dunne published a book entitled *Sunshine And The Dry Fly*. His work was largely ignored and most anglers have never heard of him or his book, but he was fascinated by translucency and tied his flies with colored silks. What he discovered was that, when the fly was 'oiled' or treated with floatant, the body turned black. When he unwrapped the silk he discovered that it was still the same color but it had become transparent and the black color that he was seeing was the color of the hook shank. To overcome this problem he started painting his hook shanks white. Dunne's ideas were interesting but the problem with his solution involved a certain characteristic of color. When the flies were in bright sunlight they were one color but when the fly was fished in the shade or on a cloudy day they lost their translucent qualities.

This is the same problem modern anglers have to deal with when attempting to precisely imitate the color of natural insects. The realities of light and color all conspire to frustrate their best attempts. This is easily illustrated by a couple simple actions that any angler can perform.

First, take a fly out of your fly box, preferably a fly with a distinctly colored body like a Cahill pattern. Put the fly in the palm of your hand and look at this fly in the sunlight. Unless you have trouble identifying colors it should appear yellow. Now, hold the fly up to the sun and look at it from below. Does it still appear to be as yellow as it did when it was in the palm of your hand? Next, put the fly in the palm of your hand and shade the fly with your other hand. What are the results? Take the fly into a dark room and hold the fly up against a dim light source. I will wager that the fly looks black. These simple experiments will give you an idea about the problems with attempting to imitate the color of natural insects as they appear to the fish. In addition, we do not know how fish perceive color which further complicates the problem.

The question of color is another one of those topics that will be discussed around campfires among fly fishers for the next one hundred years without a real solution. Like so many of the questions that fly fishing raises. I think it best to accept what we can't truly understand and enjoy the challenge that it presents.

**\* NOTE \***  
**STILL NEED  
YOUR HELP!**

**The DFC Board of Directors has discontinued our library.** Sign of the times what with our busy schedules and the digital information one might find on the internet. What we need from you...all of you who have a book and/or CD that is stuck away, remembering to return...**PLEASE connect with us and return these items.** **Thank You**  
**Touch base with Joe Staller at: (602) 568-9431**

## CONSERVATION NOTES... *Joe Miller, DFC Conservation Chairman*

### Planning Efforts for Aquatic and Watershed Restoration as Part of 4FRI Rim Country EIS

By Jim Strogen, *Writer - Life on the Fly* • July 4, 2017 • Payson Roundup



*Andrew Easton caught this 18-inch brown trout in Canyon Creek*

**Recently, I was able to attend a field trip on Canyon Creek sponsored by the Four Forest Restoration Initiative (4FRI) Stake Holders Group and organized by the Arizona Game and Fish Department and Trout Unlimited.** The purpose of the field trip was: to help participants understand the benefits of stream restoration activities on a watershed, to see some of these practices in a real-life setting, and to discuss the inclusion of these and similar practices into the planned Rim Country Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) flexible toolbox approach. This toolbox will be used in the U.S. Forest Service restoration efforts in and around streams and springs throughout the project area.

Canyon Creek was selected for the site of this field trip to showcase a variety of effective stream improvement tools. The creek was devastated by the Rodeo-Chediski Fire in 2002. This once thriving trout stream, that was also home to native fish species plummeted in fish populations by roughly 90% due to the degradation of the stream by the fire and its aftermath. Obviously amphibians, reptiles, mammals and birds are dependent on the stream environment and they too were severely impacted by the fire. Stream improvement projects that are being implemented on Canyon Creek have shown amazing results in a very short time span, and have accelerated the recovery of the creek to a fabulous trout stream once again. So in effect, Canyon Creek is a living laboratory perfect for examining and evaluating strategies to enhance streams that might be applicable to the entire 4FRI project area.

Much of the criticism and debate about the 4FRI project that I have heard is about how slowly the process seems to be moving; however, there does not seem to be much criticism for the

need of the project. We are in even more agreement that protecting and enhancing springs, streams, and lakes within the project area is incredibly important. Because the Rim Country EIS portion of the project encompasses approximately 1.24 million acres in the Apache-Sitgreaves, Coconino, and Tonto National Forests, it is impossible to specify precisely what practices the U.S. Forest Service will use in each situation encountered during the project. Instead, use of a flexible toolbox of approaches that have specific criteria and type of conditions for when they would be used, allows crews doing the work to utilize the best approach in the area under restoration. The specific approach or set of approaches to be selected will be determined in advance by managers who have surveyed the site in preparation of the work and determined, based on best practice research, which tool(s) will enhance the restoration efforts.

There are a number of treatments that have been found to be successful in streams similar to those in the 4FRI footprint. We were able to see many of those stream improvements on Canyon Creek. These included: approaches to reduce bank angles to stabilize banks, tools to deepen pools, ways to provide a more natural and beneficial stream flow that is often disrupted after an event like a major fire, strategies to provide better fish habitat, and tools to increase vegetation along streams to reduce erosion.

The stream improvements we observed utilized the materials on site, and were able to be accomplished with a small work crew in a relatively short amount of time. This means that they are also the most economical practices to employ in a project as large as the Rim Country EIS. These treatments were very responsive to changing conditions on the stream, in many cases taking advantage of high water events to actually have the stream do the work to further correct the conditions that prompted the stream improvements in the first place.

I was very encouraged after this field trip that efforts to protect and enhance our springs, streams, and lakes are very much a part of the overall 4FRI plan. Healthy streams are a key indicator of overall forest health. For many of us that enjoy our time outdoors, it is a major reason we live in Rim Country.

**Questions/Comments, please catch Joe at:**  
jamiller101@gmail.com • 928-978-1315



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Intermediate Class

## Fly Tying Corner

Wednesday, August 23 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
at McQueen Activity Center • 510 N Horne, Gilbert AZ

Can also get to from McQueen Road, between Elliott and Guadalupe but will need to walk across ball field and past pond. The Horne exit is better but need GPS to get to it unless you know Gilbert roads

Todd's Wiggle Minnow - <http://www.flytyingforum.com/pattern4143.html>

## August Flies of the Month...



### Material List:

**Hook:** TMC 8089np Sz. 2 for trout, bass.  
For salt and heavier fish, Gamakatsu B10s  
2/0

**Thread:** Danville flat wax.

**Mono loop:** 20 lb mason

**Tail:** crystal mirror flash

**Tail:** polar fiber

**Body:** Wapsi foam cylinder 3/8 dia or  
Sandal foam

**Eyes:** plastic eyes

**Markers:** Chartpak

**Optional** - Size 10-14 Scud trailer hook.  
With marabou tail

Great pattern for when bass and trout are actively chasing minnows. It can be used with heavy sink tip to get it lower in the water column or with floating line for fish on top.

Guest Fly-Tyer, Jack Dengel... Questions? Catch me, Jack at: [jackdengel@yahoo.com](mailto:jackdengel@yahoo.com)



by  
**Vince  
Deadmond**

Vince Deadmond, "The Fly Fishing Hardware Guy", is co-owner of Best Hardware in Apache Junction, AZ. He is an enthusiastic, caffienated, 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.

## MEXICO BUCKET LIST...

*If saltwater fly fishing is on your bucket list, join the Desert Fly Casters for their 54th annual Pescador Extravaganza in Puerto Penasco, Mexico. Dates Wednesday, October 25 through Monday, October 30. Most of the activities will be staged from the Playa de Oro RV Park.*

This is a busy time in Rocky Point so make your reservations early. If you are staying at the RV Park tell them you are with the DFC group and they will try to put us together. Camping at the Playa de Oro is easy and fun. You can tent camp or bring your motor home. The park has water, sewer, electrical hook ups, and shower facilities. Playa de Oro has rental trailers if you are not set up for camping. The Hotel El Mirador is next door to the RV Park and usually sells out early. There are condos available for rent on both sides of the trailer park. Many other hotels and resorts are available, look on line.

We have a neap tide on those dates, so the difference between high tide and low will be small and quite manageable for pontoon boat fishing. We plan to fish La Pinta (the Second Estuary) one of the most popular fly fishing destinations in Rocky Point. I would suggest that you assemble all of your gear before you arrive, there is no place to pick up fly fishing gear in Rocky Point. We plan to have a scheduled group float with the pontoon boats on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. One can also fish from shore, but the pontoon boat gives you more fishing options. Friday evening we have a potluck social, and conversations on best flies, techniques, and who is catching fish. Saturday we have a banquet and raffle at the El Captain Restaurant. Sunday we will plan to break up into smaller groups and explore other fishing options.

To attend our outings and classes you must be a member of the club. Desert Fly Caster meetings are held at the Elks Lodge 1775 West Chandler Blvd Chandler, Arizona. Doors open at 6:00 P with food and mingling, meeting start at 7:00 P. The meetings are on the second Wednesday of each month. August 9 will be an informal meeting with a swap meet theme, it's a good time to pick up some gently used gear. September 13 regular meeting with speaker, and October 11 will be a regular meeting with a speaker. Stop by a DFC meeting and get lined out on gear, places to stay, Mexico Insurance, safety, restaurants, and have your questions answered on fly fishing Mexico. Useful phone numbers Playa de Pro RV Park 602 476 2242, El Mirador 480 626 5841, Sea Side Reservations (condos) 480 282 8608. [www.desertflycasters.com](http://www.desertflycasters.com) Vince Deadmond The Fly Fishing Hardware Guy [vince@ajbest.com](mailto:vince@ajbest.com) 480 982 7461.

## Project Healing Waters DFC joint Outing September 16th, 2017

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

**Date: September 16th (Saturday)**

**Time: 6 am to 10:30 with Lunch following**

**Location: The Links at Queen Creek**

Host: Frank Schettino • [sketno1026@hotmail.com](mailto:sketno1026@hotmail.com) • 917-414-5428

The manager of the golf course opens up the property for the exclusive use of DFC and Project Healing Waters, since the actual golf course is closed to golfing while they reseed with winter grass. These fish are typically not fished to, which makes them a little more susceptible to our flies!

In the past, club members have caught tilapia (and some nice ones at that!), bluegill, carp and bass. Recommended gear are 3-5 wt rods, floating and/or intermediate sinking lines. 4X leaders and tippet should work well. Standard trout and bluegill flies will work well, such as leeches, small wooly buggers, hare's ears and Joe Staller's "Little Guy" in chartreuse.



## Seneca Lake Outing...*Added notes from Joe Staller*

**Outing Site:** Seneca Lake

**Date:** Saturday, August 12, 2017

**Fees:** a San Carlos fishing permit and an annual habitat stamp

**Hosted Outing Leader:** Joe Staller • Phone: 602-568-9431 • Email: joestaller@yahoo.com

**Meeting Time:** 8:00 a.m. at the Lake

**Meeting Location:** Seneca Lake • Max. # Attendees: No limit

**Directions:** The lake is on the San Carlos Indian Reservation off HWY 60 just before the Salt River Canyon. From the valley, head east on US 60. Drive through Globe, and turn left on US 60/77 just past the McDonalds. After approximately 32 miles, the Lake will be on your left, just before you start your descent into the Salt River Canyon. It is poorly signed—we saw one sign on the right ~1/2 mile before the turnoff. After the turnoff, bear somewhat to the left, we will meet at the one concrete launch ramp. (There is a maze of roads back there. See the map. DON'T FORGET TO BUY YOUR PERMITS WHILE IN GLOBE.)

**Fish:** Trout, bass, sunfish.

**Fishing strategy:** The most effective approach would be to fish from a kick boat or float tube.

**Tackle:**

Rod Wt(s)	3 wt-6 wt
Line	floating, intermediate, sinking
Leader	9 ft., 4-5X
Tippet	4-5X
Other	

**Hook sizes:** Your favorite bass, trout and sunfish patterns should work. Wooly buggers, leeches, hare's ears, pheasant tails, and small rubber leg patterns should all work. Throw in some Clousers or other streamers for the bass, and you should have it covered.

**Other gear:** Waders • Sunscreen Float Tube • Pontoon Boat • Fins • Personal Flotation Device  
Polarized sunglasses • Lunch, snacks, drinks

## DFC Education Corner...

### Summer Fly Swap

There are still two openings left in the Summer Fly Swap. Participants are asked to tie 13 chironomids of their choice; all 13 flies should be the same pattern. Then for the swap, everyone who submits will receive a dozen flies, one from each person, in return with one set going to a future club raffle. The deadline is the September club meeting.

If you'd like to reserve one of the remaining spots, please contact **Gentry Smith**, [design@gentrysmith.com](mailto:design@gentrysmith.com)

### August Intermediate Fly Tying

Club member, Jack Dengel is the featured guest tyer for August. Jack will be teaching us to tie "Todd's Wiggle Minnow," a floating baitfish imitation that's great for bass and large trout. The club will provide the materials, so you just need to bring your tools and thread.

To sign up, look for the sheet at the August Club meeting or email **Gentry Smith**, [design@gentrysmith.com](mailto:design@gentrysmith.com)

### New On-The-Water Mentor Program

Be it trout, bass, pike, carp, etc., learning to fly fish Arizona's lakes and small streams on your own can be difficult and intimidating. Furthermore, it's not always practical to host large group clinics on water that can't handle that kind of pressure.

*So what's the solution?*

Desert Fly Casters is proud to introduce our new "On-The-Water Mentor Program." Our objective is to teach beginning fly anglers how to successfully read and fish various types of waters for a wide array of fish species. Skilled anglers will voluntarily accompany 1 or 2 people for a half or full-day of fly fishing to one of our local or regional lakes or streams.

Just to be clear, we aren't running a guide service. Trips will be arranged around the instructor's availability. Additionally, both parties should expect to catch fish and split travel expenses. Remember, courteous fishing partners are more likely to get repeat invitations. Therefore, it is imperative that student anglers be reasonably self-reliant—they should have their own equipment, be able to tie on their own flies, and execute a pick-up and lay-down cast. If you still need help learning these basic skills, the club offers several classes and clinics right here in the valley that you are encouraged to attend beforehand.

We love to fly fish and look forward to sharing our passion for the sport with you. For more information on this exciting new program, please contact: **Jack Dengel**, [jackdengel@yahoo.com](mailto:jackdengel@yahoo.com)

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**DATES TO KEEP IN MIND...2017**

**REMINDER...ANNUAL DFC SWAP MEET!**

**DFC Seneca Lake Outing • Saturday, August 12, 2016**

Joe Staller Host: joestaller@yahoo.com...or: 602-568-9431

**San Juan River Trip • September 18 thru 23, 2017**

*You'll have questions on this...* catch me, Billy Wingo (host) at: 602-451-9459

**54th Annual Pescador Extravaganza in Puerto Penasco, Mexico  
Wednesday, October 25 through Monday, October 30, 2017**

Questions?? Catch me: Vince Deadmond The Fly Fishing Hardware Guy  
vince@ajbest.com 480 982 7461.



*Our DFC Trout Bum family lost one of our members, a true gentleman to be remembered.*

**James Harrison Dickson**

March 1, 1941 - July 12, 2017

Born in Fort Dodge, Iowa, he moved to Arizona as a child and lived there most of his life. He proudly served his country in the US Navy for many years. He was a jeweler, an avid outdoorsman, and extraordinary storyteller.

Jim will be missed by many of our DFC Trout Bums who knew him. *May he rest in peace.*

**See ya Wednesday...  
August 9, 2017**



**MAIL TO:**

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PO Box 6404  
Chandler, AZ 85246**

