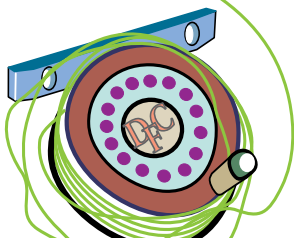
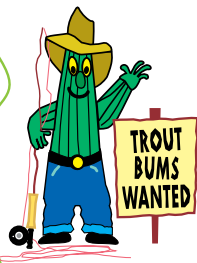


# FORWARD CASTS

OFFICIAL DESERT FLY CASTERS NEWSLETTER



**JANUARY**  
**Wednesday,**  
**January 10, 2018**  
Chit-Chat & Dinner: 6:00  
Meeting/Guest Speaker: 7:00  
Elks Lodge  
1775 West Chandler Blvd.  
Chandler, Arizona 85224



## President's Drift

*Frank Schettino - January 2018*



### Happy New Year,

Greetings fellow Trout Bums. I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and Santa surprised you with lots of fishing gear. Its hard to believe that another year has come and gone and we welcomed in 2018. I hope this year brings lots of bent rods, tight lines and some big fish is your nets.

Our featured guest this month is the one, the only, Jeff Currier. Thats right Jeff is back for a return engagement. Jeff has visited us in the past and is back with a fantastic program I know you will not want to miss.

*See you at the meeting....*

*Tight lines,  
Frank Schettino*



photo from:  
OutdoorLife  
Best Quotes All Time

*"Fly-fishing is the most fun you can have standing up."*

- Arnold Gingrich

## DFC Club Meeting January 10, 2018



Start your new fly fishing season off with us...  
Follow the current, drift on by & catch one of our favorites...  
**JEFF CURRIER**



**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!**



### 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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Frank Schettino

**Vice President**  
Joe Staller

**Secretary**  
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**Outings**  
Joe Staller

**Membership**  
Linda McAteer

**Website**  
Bill Batchelor

**News Letter**  
Robert McKeon

## DFC Stuff, Things & Events to keep in mind...

### DFC 2018 Banquet

Don't miss out on the DFC 2018 Annual Banquet and Raffle to be held Wednesday, Feb 21. (Please note that this is the week AFTER our normal DFC meeting!) The banquet is held at the Knights of Columbus Hall---- a different location than our regular monthly meetings. See the above map for location. Come early to purchase your raffle tickets and bid on the items you want.

We will have many fly fishing items, gift certificates and items donated by members.

This raffle is different than our monthly raffle. Raffle tickets are 6 for \$5, 30 for \$25, 70 for \$50 and 140 for \$100. You will purchase tickets and place them in buckets for items you want to bid on. A winner for each item will be drawn from each bucket. In addition to the normal raffle items we will also have prizes for purchasing tickets in the amount of \$25, \$50 & \$100.

We will also be selling a deck of cards for \$10 a card. The lucky person that buys the winning card will win a pontoon.

We have a 50/50 raffle. Tickets will be 5 for \$5. At the end of the night the lucky ticket holder will pocket 50% of the money collect. Just think, this could pay for all your raffle tickets you purchased.

With all the raffle items and good food it is bound to be another good DFC Banquet/Raffle evening. If your last name begins with A-S bring a dish to share or T-Z bring a dessert. You DFC Board will furnish the meat. Hope to see you there.

*If you have an item to donate or question send Frank Schettino an e-mail:*

Frank Schettino  
sketno1026@hotmail.com

### DFC Fly Casting Club Meetup

**Event Dates: Saturday, January 6, 2017**

**Event Location:** McQueen Park Recreation Field

**Event Time:** 10am – 12pm

**Event Cost:** This event is free and open to the public—bring a friend!

**Event Host:** Larry Allen, FFI Master Casting Instructor

**Contact Email:** flatsman@cox.net

**Please RSVP in advance and include "DFC Fly Casting" in the subject line.**

#### Looking to improve your fly casting skills?

Desert Fly Casters (www.DesertFlyCasters.com) is hosting an ongoing series of free fly casting events at Gilbert's McQueen Park. Fly Fishing International (FFI) Certified Fly Casting Instructors and club 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.

Accurate fly casting will significantly improve your angling ability, so don't miss this opportunity to work with the some of the best fly casting instructors in the valley.

#### Event highlights:

• Beginning, intermediate and advanced fly casting instruction · Tournament casting instruction

#### Items to bring:

• Sunglasses/eyeglasses · Hat · Sunscreen · Drinking water  
• Fly rod/reel/line/leader (loaner equipment available upon request)

**Don't miss this....Always a Club favorite!**



# Annual Danish Casting Games along with a Lunch!

**Saturday, January 13, 2018 • 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Gilbert's McQueen Park**

**Located on...** McQueen Road between Guadalupe and Elliot. Look for us on the west side of the pond that's directly behind the community center. Use the McQueen Road entrance and parking lot.

**Cost: Free**

**Eligibility:** DFC & Project Healing Waters

**Host:** Gentry Smith • [design@gentrysmith.com](mailto:design@gentrysmith.com)

*Please, RSVP in advance and include "Danish Games" in the subject line.*

*The Danish Casting Games is a longtime club favorite featuring a series of fly casting obstacle that are set up similar to a miniature golf course. Each game promises to challenge veteran fly casters, but is also a great teaching tool for new fly anglers. IFFF Certified Casting instructors will be available to help casters complete each game and explain how they relate to real-life fishing situations. Members are welcome to participate competitively or non-competitively-it's all about having a good time.*

### **Event Highlights:**

- Beginning, intermediate and advanced fly casters welcome
  - Meet members from other fly fishing organizations
- Free lunch provided. Please bring a side to share if you are so inclined.

### **Items to bring:**

- Sunglasses/eyeglasses • Hat • Sunscreen • Drinking water
- Fly rod/reel/line/leader (loaner equipment available upon request)

## DFC Intermediate Fly Tying

### **Event Dates:**

Wednesday, January 27, 2017

### **Event Location:**

McQueen Park Activity Center

**Event Time:** 7pm – 9pm

### **Event Cost:**

This is a free event for Club Members

### **Event Host:**

Michael Faulkinbury  
live2flyfish@gmail.com

## 2018 Trout Bum Membership Drive Update

The DFC 2018 Annual Membership Drive began December 1, 2017. The incentive this year is a chance to win a very special fly rod – The Canyon Creek Special. This is a Dave Weaver custom made rod for small streams. You don't want to miss out on getting a free ticket for this fly rod raffle. Renew January 1 through April 11, 2018 (the general meeting) and receive one free special raffle ticket.

Your membership dues of \$35 help the club offer outings, classes, and other activities throughout the year. Only current members can attend club sponsored outings; and most classes are for Members Only.

2018 membership dues are still \$35. If you wish to receive a black & white printed copy of the newsletter, that cost is an additional \$11 per year. The full-color emailed newsletter is included in your \$35 membership dues.

You can renew by mail to Desert Fly Casters, PO Box 6404, Chandler, AZ 85226. Membership forms for mailing can be printed from our website at <http://www.desertflycasters.com>.

**Any questions?** Email Linda McAteer at [membership.desertflycasters@gmail.com](mailto:membership.desertflycasters@gmail.com)

## Lees Ferry Trout Fishery and the Proposed Actions of the National Park Service on That Fishery

By Jim Strogon, Writer - Life on the Fly - Payson Roundup Newspaper

As an angler who has fished in many locations across the country, there is perhaps no more scenic location to catch trout than in the stretch of the Colorado River between Glen Canyon Dam and the Paria River confluence known as Lees Ferry. This famous blue ribbon rainbow trout fishery is also a critical economic driver for the residents and businesses in that area.

There has always been a strange internal battle that I have held regarding this fishery. I value the preservation of native species and am generally an advocate for the removal of invasives that endanger those native species. The humpback chub and the razorback sucker are two endangered fish that have been impacted by the building of Glen Canyon Dam that changed the river into a cold flowing river below the dam. The introduction of trout below the dam that thrive in this cold water environment, further compounded that impact. The planners of the dam weighed the costs on the endangered species vs. the power, water, and recreational needs of the public long ago and went ahead with the dam's construction.

Currently the National Park Service (NPS) is making a concerted effort to remove all potential invasive aquatic threats to the system. They held Public Scoping Meetings for the Non Native Aquatic Species Management Plan Environmental Assessment (EA) in Flagstaff, Page, and Phoenix in December that hopefully you were able to attend. This plan includes elements having a potentially damaging impact on the Lees Ferry trout fishery. This is a critical time for public comment and to get your opinion counted in this plan. The mechanical removal of brown trout in Lees Ferry would be damaging to the rainbow trout fishery from an angler's perspective and would pose a severe economic impact on the businesses and residents that depend on the trout fishery for their livelihood.

Your individual written comment about this proposed plan prior to January 5, 2018 is very important to provide a strong voice in opposition to this plan. The attached link (below) is the information provided by the NPS about this action plan and also provides information about where to direct your comments.

The full EA scoping letter is available at: <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/document.cfm?parkID=62&projectID=74515&documentID=84099>

Back to my dilemma. As I said, I generally support removal of invasive species in the Grand Canyon. The humpback chubs and razorback suckers are warm water species that are often concentrated in locations along the river where there is warmer water. The preferred area is the Little Colorado River (LCR) and where it meets the Colorado River. Through some previous management decisions, brown trout were stocked in the Colorado River and into tributaries to the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon decades ago. Unlike rainbow trout which generally are more insect eating for their entire lifespan, brown trout as they grow larger, tend to eat a higher percentage of other fish. Although the actual numbers of brown trout in the Lees Ferry area remains small, any increase is a concern to the NPS as they believe any increase poses a threat on the endangered species downstream. There are brown trout throughout Marble Canyon, near the LCR confluence, and below the confluence throughout the river. This plan calls for the removal of brown trout in Lees Ferry, which is 61 river miles upstream, but does not address the more obvious need to remove brown trout in the immediate vicinity of the endangered fish at the LCR confluence. The impact of physical removal (long-term intensive and repeated electrofishing) on what is agreed to be the protected rainbow trout fishery has fisheries biologists concerned about the rainbow trout exposed to repeated shocking, and the economic effect on the area due to the impact on fishing.

There are root causes to the recent increase to the brown trout numbers that were explored in a conference on brown trout that took place in Phoenix in September, 2017. Addressing those root causes is not the thrust of the NPS plan. One of the suggestions to address the root causes included shifting the high flow event from the fall to the spring when it impacts on rainbow trout. Temperature control to reduce temperatures out of the dam was another recommendation from the workshop, as was attention to the food base for all fish below the dam. There was also an awareness expressed in the workshop that brown trout that are currently being prevented by a weir from entering Bright Angel Creek may actually be a more direct threat to the humpback chubs at the Lower Colorado River confluence due to their proximity to the LCR compared to Lees Ferry. Current data from electrofishing near the LCR confluence shows a minimal number of brown trout being captured and thus not a direct threat to the humpback chub in their preferred reach. There are also longstanding Tribal concerns about the physical removal of fish in the river system.

In my opinion, further exploring the root causes to any increase in brown trout and implementing suggestions from that conference is the best way to address the brown trout problem in the Colorado River, not the futile effort to focus on the removal of brown trout from the Lees Ferry area at the expense of the blue ribbon rainbow trout fishery. Your opinion on this issue is being sought by the National Park Service and I urge you to make those opinions known prior to January 5, 2018.

Questions??....Catch Jim Strogon at: [jimstrog@gmail.com](mailto:jimstrog@gmail.com)



# ALONG THE OUTER BANKS

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**REMINDER!** Hey fellow DFC'ers - we could use your help...

**Our Annual Banquet will be held Wednesday, February 21, 2018**

**Meet up with us at: Knights of Columbus Hall • 644 E. Chandler Blvd. • Chandler, AZ**

As you are probably aware, the annual banquet is our opportunity to raise money to support the ongoing operations of the Desert Fly Casters. The money brought in by the raffle allows us to:

- 1)- Support Arizona Game and Fish to enhance Blue Ribbon streams (Lower Canyon Creek in the Tonto National Forest and Silver Creek near Show Low) by providing funding and manpower.
- 2)- Provide funding to the White Mountains Lake Foundation—an organization focused on conservation and improving the fishing in Arizona's White Mountains.
- 3)- Support Casting for Recovery (a Women's Breast Cancer survivor group) by providing "pond buddies" and funding.
- 4)- Support Project Healing Waters by providing disable veterans by funding outings, purchasing equipment and providing support volunteers.
- 5)- Conduct free classes for fly casting, fly tying and rod building.
- 6)- Provide free training and support for Boy Scouts Fly Fishing Merit badge.
- 7)- Yearly support at fishing expos and stores for education of fly fishing with emphasis on bringing new people into the sport.
- 8)- Yearly classes for fly casting, fly tying and rod building
- 9)- Monthly meetings with guest speakers
- 10)- ....and outings for our club members!

While there are still some very generous donations made by members of the fly fishing business community, in all honesty many companies that used to donate have either stopped altogether or have reduced their contributions by a significant amount.

I'm hoping that you can help us close the gap. If you own a business, please consider donating some services or products. If you are good friends with a business owner, please ask them to donate a service or a product. As an individual, perhaps you would consider donating a craft item, a wine basket, a box of hand tied flies, that extra fishing vest you have never used etc. etc.

Please catch me, **Frank Schettino, DFC Pres. at: sketno1026@hotmail.com** for more information on how to donate or for our charitable contribution letter (we are a 501. C3 corporation, so donations are tax deductible)

# DFC ANNUAL BANQUET

## Wednesday • February 21, 2018

**Mark your calendars**  
*...tell some fish stories*  
*...meet some new members*  
*...win a prize an' get on with having a great time!*

***We'll meet in the Knights of Columbus Hall:***

**644 E. Chandler Blvd. • Chandler, AZ**

***Please help all of us with prize donations...Any questions catch us:***

**Frank Schettino-DFC President at- [sketno1026@hotmail.com](mailto:sketno1026@hotmail.com)**

**Joe Staller at- [joestaller@yahoo.com](mailto:joestaller@yahoo.com)**

**Gentry Smith at- [design@gentrysmith.com](mailto:design@gentrysmith.com)**



**We'll have a  
place setting  
for all our  
DFC Trout Bums**

***Additional information will be discussed at our January 10th monthly club meeting.***

# DESERT FLY CASTERS

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM

Are you a member of our parent organization? Int'l Federation of Fly Fishers (IFFF) Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Visit the IFFF website, support the IFFF and sign up: <http://www.fedflyfishers.org>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Ph ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

**YES, I would like to volunteer- Please contact me**



### Individual or Family are:

**For Yearly Membership** -  \$35/year - Email **Color** newsletter  
 \$45/year - Mailed B/W newsletter

**For Life Time Membership** -  Email **Color** Newsletter  
**\$350**  Mailed B/W Newsletter

Type of Membership: Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_

Name Tags are \$6 each:

Name 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Name 2: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tax Deductible Conservation donation: (DFC is a 501C3 Non-Profit Org) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every Month

### **Meeting Location** - ELKS LODGE, 1775 W. Chandler Blvd, Chandler, AZ

Take the 101 south to Chandler Blvd, go East just past Dobson Rd to SW corner at Pennington Dr.

(Behind the Car Wash) \*Push the Door Bell at the Door\*

**DESERT FLY CASTERS - PO BOX 6404, Chandler, AZ 85246**

Attention: Membership

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

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Web Address Site  
<http://www.desertflycasters.com>

**DATES TO KEEP IN MIND...2018**

**DFC FLY CASTING CLUB MEETUP**

**Saturday, January 6, 2017 • 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. • Gilbert's McQueen Park**  
*Host: Larry Allen, • Flatsman@cox.net*

**ANNUAL DANISH CASTING GAMES**

**Saturday, January 13, 2018 • 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. • Gilbert's McQueen Park**  
*Host: Gentry Smith • design@gentrysmith.com*

**ANNUAL DFC BANQUET**

**Wednesday, February 21, 2018 • Knights of Columbus Hall**

See ya Wednesday...  
January 10, 2018



MAIL TO: 

Desert Fly Casters  
PO Box 6404  
Chandler, AZ 85246

