

FORWARD CASTS

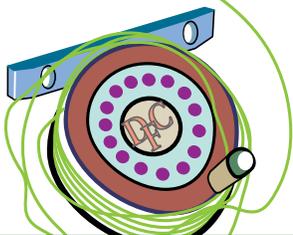
OFFICIAL DESERT FLY CASTERS NEWSLETTER



JUNE
Wednesday,
June 13, 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 • June 2018



Greetings DFC'ers,

Its June, another year is flying by, the summer heat is upon us but hey its a dry heat. When you're out at your secret favorite spot be sure you bring plenty of fluids with you. Speaking of favorite fishing spots. Its time for our annual Big Lake Extravaganza June 7-10. As of this writing the campground was still open. We also have an outing planned at Canyon Lake, Boulder Cove on June 16. If you're planning on attending either of the outings or have a trip planned elsewhere good luck, enjoy your time and take some pictures to share on the fishing report.

Tight lines,
Frank Schettino

DFC Club Meeting June 13, 2018



Let's talk about the big ones! Our DFC fishing guru, VINCE DEADMOND, will give us a better understanding when fishing for pike and musky... And, we'll check out some of Vince's hand tied fly patterns.

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!



Of course I talk to myself when I'm fishing. Sometimes I need expert advice.



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*

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www.desertflycasters.com

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DFC JUNE OUTING

White Mountains Extravaganza • June 7-10, 2018

Location: *Big Lake. Fir Group Campsite, Apache Trout campground.*

This camp site has hot showers and indoor plumbing. There will be a Social/Dinner on Saturday night. The club will provide brats and buns, please bring something to share.

Cost: \$48/per campsite

Fishing: Stillwater/Float tube/Pontoon boat -June is a great month to be at Big Lake. In recent years, big Cut-throat trout have been caught in June. Full sink intermediate and type 2 or 3 fly lines are the most useful. Flies should include Simi-seal leeches, hare's ears, pheasant tails, and midge larva imitations. Dry flies fished on a floating line will work at dawn and dusk. If you prefer streams, the West Fork of the Black River is nearby.

Directions: Located 27 miles SW of Springerville on AZ 260 and 273 and Forest Route 113 and 115. From Pinetop, Arizona, take Highway 260 east 60 miles to Highway 261 south. Follow Highway 261 south 20 miles to Forest Road 115 and turn south for 1 mile. APACHE TROUT CAMPGROUND, Apache Sitgreaves National Forest, Springerville AZ 85938, Phone Number: Information: (928)537-8888

Fish: Trout • **Fishing strategy:** Stillwater/Float tube/Pontoon boat • **Rod Wt(s):** 4-6 weight rods
Line: floating, intermediate, sinking • **Leader:** 9 ft., 5X Tippetts: 4, 5, 6X • **Patterns:** Simi-seal leeches, midges, hoppers, Prince Nymphs, damsel nymphs, hare's ears, pheasant tails. • **Other gear:** Waders, Float Tube, Pontoon Boat, Fins, Personal Flotation Device, Polarized sunglasses, Sun Block

Contact: Linda McAteer at: lmcateer60@gmail.com • Phone: 480-658-6154 (cell phone)

June Bonus Outing

Saturday • June 16, 2018

Those who know me know that I'm a sucker for big bluegill on a fly rod. One of the more dependable locations for big bluegills in June has been Boulder Cove at Canyon Lake. If you are in town, why don't you come join us?

Where: Boulder Cove at Canyon Lake. To get there, take the Apache Trail (Route 88) east from Apache Junction. When you get to the lake, pass the Palo Verde Recreation site on your left, and take the next right to the Boulder Recreation Site.

When: Saturday, June 16. To avoid the heat, try to be there fairly early. I hope to be there at 5:00 a.m.

Gear: 3, 4 or 5 weight rods. Floating lines should work, but throw a sinking line in also. 9 foot 5X leaders. Bring a float tube or kick-boat, shore fishing is very limited. You will need to carry your boat down a short flight of steps, so bring your fishing buddy to help carry your boat! Bring lots of water and a few snacks. No need to bring your waders, but I do recommend wearing quick drying long pants, both to keep the sun off and to prevent swimmers itch.

Flies: Standard trout nymphs like hare's ears and simi-seal leeches will certainly work. I've had my best luck with size 14 chartreuse flies with rubber legs.

Misc: *Don't forget your Tonto Pass (one per vehicle) and your personal flotation device.*

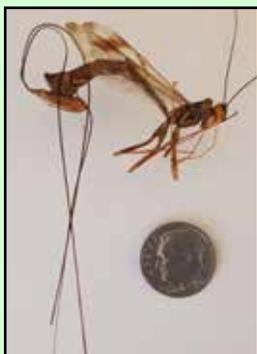
We will plan on getting off the water at noon (or so) and head over to Tortilla flat for burgers and beverages.

See you there!

For more info, contact Joe Staller at joestaller@yahoo.com, or 602-568-9431

Insects Are Cool

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



I'm not sure I'll be able to convince anyone to appreciate insects as much as I do, but here goes. I am a bit of an odd duck in that I still have an insect collection from my college days dating back to the 1970s. I have taken that collection into elementary classrooms countless times over the years to share the beauty and wonder of insects with kids. I usually get sad looks when the students realize that all of the insects in my collection are dead, but when I explain that these particular "bugs" have allowed me to share how amazing insects are with hundreds of kids, they understand that they are serving a useful purpose in their death. The students get to see how certain tasty insects closely resemble others that are poisonous in order to avoid being eaten. I have several insects with amazing styles of camouflage on display in my collection. I even get a chance to show them a wasp that drills a hole deep into a tree to deposit her eggs on a beetle larva.

As a fly fisherman, I have always valued the importance of aquatic insects as a food source for the fish I like to catch. I have spent many happy hours bent over the water looking at rocks or my sampling nets to see what insects are in my favorite streams or lakes. I did this initially as a kid just because I thought they were cool, but later I did it to help me figure out what size and color to make my artificial flies that I hoped would be a close imitation to the naturals. Eventually I realized that I was missing part of the equation of duplicating these insects because I had neglected to include how they move. This led me to put my samples into a white dish tub next to the creek and watch how these aquatic insects moved in the water. Mayfly nymphs, for example move differently than caddisfly larvae. That caused me to add certain movements to my artificial fly imitations when I fished. I believe this awareness of insect appearance and movement has helped me be more successful in my fishing. I was also aware that in my favorite trout streams, there were typically a lot of mayflies, caddisflies, and stoneflies. These insects are great indicators of the overall water quality of the stream. If there are high percentages of these three kinds of insects compared to others that are indicative of poorer water conditions, then you can be assured that the stream is in good health. While fish have the ability to avoid an unhealthy situation in a stream by perhaps moving temporarily into a tributary stream that is cooler, or moving downstream ahead of a potential adverse discharge, aquatic insects are stuck where they live. They are the "canary in the mine" when it comes to water quality in our streams and lakes. A single adverse discharge from a pollutant will kill off the aquatic insect population and provide unmistakable proof of the offense. If conditions such as rising temperatures or increased sediment build-up occur over time, aquatic insect populations will change too. In these situations, sensitive mayflies, caddisflies, and stoneflies will be missing or only be present in small numbers. They will instead be replaced with species more tolerant of poor water conditions. By monitoring the aquatic insect populations in our streams and lakes, we can learn the current health of those waters, and if we maintain that monitoring effort we can quickly determine if the stream remains healthy or is trending toward unhealthy conditions. Their sensitivity to changes in the environment allows us to use aquatic insects

to manage potential impacts to watersheds. A current study being done by the Oak Creek Watershed Council is using aquatic insects along with sediment sampling to evaluate the effect of erosion and sedimentation from run-off into Oak Creek. The Four Forest Restoration Initiative (4FRI) which includes our area is another great example of how aquatic insects can be an effective monitoring and management tool. Insect populations are wiped out after a wildfire when tons of ash and silt enter previously clean streams. Fortunately, as streams recover over time, the aquatic insects return. The Forest Service plan includes attention to streams as they strategically manage areas with prescribed mechanical removal of trees and prescribed burns. By noting the distribution of the aquatic insects in a stream prior to restoration efforts, it is possible to assess the impact during and after the project. Ideally, the 4FRI effort will maintain or enhance all of the watersheds in the restoration area. The aquatic insects can help us know if all is going well! Convinced that insects are cool yet? I'll keep on trying.

Catch, Jim Strogen at: jimstrog@gmail.com

DFC Intermediate Fly Tying

June 27, 2018 • McQueen Activity Center | 7pm – 9pm
DFC Members Only • Marie McClearn • mcclearn@msn.com



Fly Pattern: Rainbow Warrior

Materials Needed:

Hook: TMC 2457 #14-20

Bead: Silver Tungsten, sized to hook

Thread: 8/0

Red Tail: Pheasant Tail Fibers

Abdomen: Pearl Tinsel, medium

Wing Case: Stub End of Pearl Tinsel from abdomen

Thorax: Wapsi Sow Scud Dubbing, Rainbow

The Rainbow Warrior is the creation from Lance Egan of Utah. This little non-descript bug came on the scene a few years ago and immediately caused a stir among anglers and fish alike. The Tungsten bead adds the perfect amount of weight to this bug as a dropper in a dry/dropper rig and the rainbow of colors emanating from the pearl body and rainbow dubbing create a fish catching dynamic that is tough to beat. The best part of this fly? It's so simple to tie!

Please note: *This month's Intermediate Fly Tying class will be more of a group tying event. The materials needed will be provided and we can tie the pattern or variations together. I use red Macaw feathers in place of the Pheasant Tail Fibers.*

Instructor: Marie McClearn • [RSVP: mcclearn@msn.com](mailto:mcclearn@msn.com)

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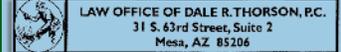
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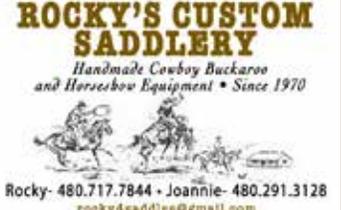
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SAN JUAN RIVER TRIP

Note: Your choice of dates in September

Now is the time to think about and sign up for this years San Juan River trip. We had a great trip last year and looking forward to another. Again this year we will divide the trip in two groups to make it easier for people to make either a weekday trip or a weekend trip. *The first group will sign in on Monday September 17th and fish on Tuesday and Wednesday September 18th and 19th and leave on Thursday September 20th. The second group will sign in on Thursday September 20th and fish on Friday and Saturday September 21st and 22nd.* That group will leave on Sunday September 23rd. Like always this will be three nights lodging and two days of guided fishing. If you have been before you know what a great trip it is and if you are new to fly fishing you will learn more in two days than you will in two years on your own. It is a guided float trip with all flies provided, lunch provided on the river and great guides who put you on the fish. Really a lot of fun. We will start signing up at the June meeting. The cost will be around \$600.00 per person, double occupancy. I will have the exact amount shortly. Any questions call me at 602-451-9459.

Sign-ups • Additional information catch Billy Wingo at: billy.wingo@phoenix.gov



WHITE MOUNTAIN LAKES FOUNDATION

SIXTH ANNUAL

BECKER BEST

2018

SATURDAY

JULY 14

LAKE OPENS AT
6:00 am

BECKER LAKE | SPRINGVILLE, AZ

Join the White Mountain Lakes Foundation (WMLF), a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving Arizona's White Mountain fisheries through grassroots conservation, restoration and protection efforts, for a day of fun and fishing at the sixth annual Becker Best event. Lunch will be provided by WMLF, followed by a general raffle and the WMLF 2018 membership rod raffle.

A block of discounted rooms has been reserved under White Mountain Lakes Foundation at the Rode Inn Motel located just a few short minutes from Becker Lake.

Call (928) 333-4365 for reservations

More Info Contact, Joe Staller | joestaller@yahoo.com

*All times are approximate

FREE LUNCH
12:00 PM

GENERAL RAFFLE
1:30 PM

MEMBERSHIP ROD RAFFLE
2:00 PM

www.WMLF.ORG

As we have for the last several years, DFC has organized an outing to the White Mountains to help support the White Mountains Lake Foundation (WMLF). On July 14, WMLF will host a one day event at Becker Lake, which includes some expert guidance on how to successfully fish Becker Lake, a FREE lunch, and a general raffle open to everyone. Members of WMLF will also have the opportunity to win a Dave Weaver custom made Sage Accel 4 pc 5 wt fly rod, made with the finest components. If you are not a WMLF member, you will be able to join the day of the event and get one chance for the rod raffle. Membership is \$25 annually. Just to be clear, you do NOT need to be a member of WMLF to enjoy the day, participate in the general raffle, and get the free lunch.

If you need a place to stay, WMLF and DFC have reserved a block of discounted rooms at the Rode Inn Motel, located in Springerville just a few short minutes from Becker Lake. Call 928-333-4365 for reservations. Just mention the "WMLF Becker Best" event to get the discount.

Festivities begin at 6:00 a.m. when the lake opens. My recommendation is to get there early, fish the morning, then get off the water at noon for lunch and socializing.

Hope to see you there!

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

STREAM Girls gains momentum in Arizona

Linda McAteer, STREAM Girl Coordinator

This article appeared in the June newsletter from our good fishing friends of the Trout Unlimited Zane Grey Chapter. I personally wanted to make sure our DFC Trout Bum gang recognize our own board member, **Linda McAteer**. Aside from keeping active duties as, DFC Membership Chairperson Linda, as you can see is also active in our trout community elsewhere.

Thank you Linda for your love and dedication to the out-of-doors. And, thank you to Alan Davis, and the Zane Grey T.U. Chapter.

R. McKeon
DFC Newsletter Editor

May has been a busy month for the STREAM Girl program, with casting and fly tying instruction at the Girl Scout Jamboree at Camp Raymond near Flagstaff. Volunteers from the Arizona Women of Trout Unlimited were on hand to offer instruction, and helped the Girl Scout naturalist with macro investigations at the camp's fishing pond. Thanks to Connie Sullivan, Sara Westfall, Sharon Masek Lopez, and Barbara Stratton for traveling to the mountains to spend your day helping Girl Scouts!



Linda McAteer leads various STREAM Girls in fly tying



Sharon Masek Lopez and STREAM Girls go with the flow

On May 23, Sharon Masek Lopez stepped up again to lead the watershed training for the Shadow Rim Ranch Girl Scout Camp staff. A full day of macro study, stream flow estimates, and watershed education has the camp staff ready to lead the way at summer camp.

Sharon Richardson and Kay Cameron will offer FF101 at Shadow Rim Ranch June 12 to an elite group of Girl Scouts who are heading to Lees Ferry on June 14.

Although the forest closings and lack of rain have changed some plans for this summer, STREAM Girls is on the calendar again for the 2019 camping season.

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DATES TO KEEP IN MIND...2018

White Mountains Extravaganza • June 7-10, 2018

Location: *Big Lake. Fir Group Campsite, Apache Trout campground Rim.*

Host: *Linda McAteer • Imcateer60@gmail.com*

June Bonus Outing • Saturday, June 16, 2018

Location: *Boulder Cove at Canyon Lake*

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

Becker Best • Becker Lake, AZ • Saturday, July 14, 2018

Location: *Springerville, AZ*

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

See ya Wednesday...
June 13, 2018



MAIL TO: 

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