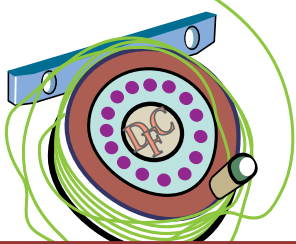
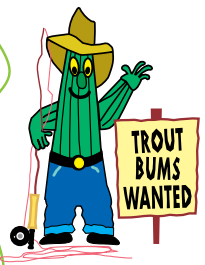


FORWARD CASTS

OFFICIAL DESERT FLY CASTERS NEWSLETTER



NOVEMBER
Wednesday,
November 14, 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 • November 2018



Greetings fellow DFC'ers...

Welcome to November and the start of the holiday season. Can you believe only three more weeks till Thanksgiving and then its Christmas. Get your lists started.

Curtis Gill from AZGFD will be our guest speaker at the November meeting. Curtis will give us the lowdown on AZGFD Rim stream projects its plans.

DFC Education has been updated. Look for the classes and dates will be available at the November meeting.

DFC Trout Bums are in Rocky Point Mexico at the 55th annual DFC Rocky Point trip. I can't wait to hear the news on the action and pictures.

See you at the meeting, I'm off to get my Christmas list started.

Tight lines,
 Frank Schettino

DFC Club Meeting November 14, 2018



Join, AZGFD- Curtis Gill.

Curtis will bring us up to date on the Rim Stream Project and it's plans.

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!

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- December Fly Fishing Outing* • page 3
- Jim Summernote-Fly Fishers Learning Ctr.* • page 3
- DFC Casting Meet-Ups* • page 3
- Taking Grandson Fishing Lees Ferry* • page 4
- Special Thank You-San Juan Trip* • page 5
- Memorbilia & Reel Collector, Jon Kring* • page 6
- Conservation Corner- Joe Miller* • page 7
- ...and, much, much more!



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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Editor's Notes an' Ramblings...

Yeah...Lost my nut!

I got into tossing some bait casting rods with the help of Larry Allen- trying to master in some small fashion the art of "Tournament Target Casting." Larry told me right from the start "...don't go out and buy any new reels for this!" I followed his advise and Vince Deadmond found me an old Pflueger reel just for the occasion. Eagerly I cleaned the reel, dropped some oil in the old relic and proceeded to master the target casting game in my backyard. I ended up with the thin 4# test line jammed in the side of the reel, so tight it wouldn't turn...and had to take the reel apart to dig out the line. Happened a few times...Learned to take the dang reel apart like an expert. THEN it happened...Put the Pflueger together one more time, with some choice words. Then, I hurried back to my practice area to gain more experience in the art of tournament casting. I was having hopes in my twilight years of being on the USA Casting Team with Larry Allen. My first cast, as the sun was setting on my backyard course, something just didn't feel right. The fixed-up Pflueger was lifeless, the spool fell in a heap at my feet, it was only then in the dim light, I realized I lost a nut.

I was not lost in my quest to be a medal recipient for my casting skills and looked up an acquaintance I became friends with through the internet. I had been surfing the internet and found the *Old Reel Collectors Association, ORCA* web site. I've tapped in on this site in the past regarding reels. Some member always came through and helped with a solution. This is where I became acquainted with Jon Kring, the ORCA librarian. After Jon read about my nut case, he immediately took charge and had the exact part sent to me by another ORCA member who is a guru in repairing reels. Jon helped me with my Pflueger and also got me set up with a reel seat for an old Martin 67 fly reel I drop on my vintage Shakespeare fiberglass rods while bumming around the McQueen Park meet-ups. Please join Jon Kring, on page 6, and share his passion for collecting reels.

R. McKeon, DFC Editor

Catch me at: rmckeon2@cox.net



White Mountains Outing • Nov. 16-18, 2018

Location: Becker Lake, near Springerville, AZ

Our November Outing will be held at Becker Lake, near Springerville. Members can stay at their private cabins, camp at local campgrounds, or more conveniently, stay at the Rode Inn in Springerville.

<http://www.rodeinnmotels.com/>

Call 928-333-4365 to make your reservations.

Address: 242 E Main St, Springerville, AZ 85938 Phone: (928) 333-4365

Becker Lake typically fishes well in the fall. I've had my best luck throwing size 10 peacock flies (Prince Nymphs, peacock damsels, etc.) with a size 16 pheasant tail or olive flashback as a trailer right to the bank on a slow sinking line, and then retrieve with erratic strips. Hang on! However, bring your hoppers, leeches and midges because those can all work also.

On Saturday night, we plan on meeting at Trailrider's for dinner.

They are located at 140 N Main St, Eagar, AZ 85925. See their menu at: <http://trailridersfamilyrestaurantandbar.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/TrailridersMenu.pdf>

**For more information, please catch Joe Staller at:
joestaller@yahoo.com • cell: 602-568-9431**



December DFC Outing

Saturday-December 15, 2018 • 8:00 AM

Where: ASU Research Park • (Middle Lake)

The lakes are located between Elliot and Warner, West of the 101. They can be accessed from S. River Parkway.

Parking: Please park on the side street to the east of the lake (S. Research Park Drive)

Target species: Bass, sunfish, yellow perch, grass carp

Tackle: 4, 5, or 6 wt rods. Floating or slow sinking lines. 9 foot 4X leaders.

Flies: Simi-seal leeches, size 14 chartreuse "Little Guys", egg patterns, standard trout flies

Host: Grant Berkowitz...**Catch Grant at:** gjberk@gmail.com • cell phone: 480-313-4270

Lunch: We will meet at Zipp's Sports Bar at 12:00 noon for lunch and awards ceremony. Zipp's is located at 1860 E Warner Rd, Tempe, AZ 85284, (NE corner of Warner and McClintock) near the Harbor Freight.

WELCOME



DFC NEW MEMBERS

Richard Anderson
Jim Strogon
Matt DeMarce
Amy McGrath
Tom Harvath
Brian Hunter
Jake Alpert
Liz Saunders
Pete Nash
Gary DePuydt
Scott Davis
Bryon Lippincott

Fly Fishers International Learning Center

The FFI Learning Center is a new initiative that brings together FFI's expertise in Fly Casting, Fly Tying, Fly Fishing Skills, and Conservation Education for the benefit of FFI members and the fly fishing community. You can learn more about it here:

<https://flyfishersinternational.org/Education/Learning-Center>.

The Learning Center's Fly Casting section is the first to be brought online and it includes casting instruction modules and games designed to teach and improve fly casting skills. The Casting Instruction modules include descriptions of three beginning casts (Pick-up/Lay-down, False Casting, The Roll Cast), as well as Change of Direction and Fundamentals of Casting.

The Fly Casting Skills Challenge is a fun way to improve casting skills. It includes three challenge levels focusing on fly casts used in many fishing situations. Recognition Pins are available for each level achieved. The Skills Challenge provides a structured way to practice fly casting that will help to identify casting faults that can be the focus of personal instruction at club casting events.

Questions? • Comments... Catch Jim Summercorn at:
jsommercorn@gmail.com

Proposed Dates for the DFC Casting Meetups...

DFC Casting meetup • 11/17/2018 • McQueen Park. 10AM-12PM.
DFC Casting meetup • 01/05/2019 • McQueen park. 10AM-12PM.
Essentials of Fly Casting* • 1/10/2019 • McQueen activity center, 7-9 PM
Danish Casting Games • 02/02/2019. Mc Queen park. 9AM-12PM.
DFC Casting Meetup • 03/09/2019. McQueen park. 10AM-12PM.
Beginner Fly Casting • 03/30/2019. McQueen park. 10AM-12PM.
DFC Casting Meetup • 05/11/2019. McQueen park. 8AM-10AM.

* Note: Depending on room availability

Catch Frank Schettino, *The President Guy* for further details at:
sketno1026@hotmail.com



Taking a Grandson on His First Fishing Trip to Lees Ferry

Jim Strogen

There are progressions in fly fishing, and both of my older grandsons are demonstrating great skill as they move along that continuum. Owen-11 and Ayden-8 have the roll cast down. Both boys can unhook and release their fish unharmed back into the water without help. They know their aquatic insects and which flies are a good match to the real ones. Owen is already tying some nice flies.

In fact, the last time they were up to Payson to visit, Owen took another step in this journey and asked me to let him work through any fishing problems he encountered that day on his own. As Ayden and I worked around the lake catching fish after fish, Owen sat down and retied after losing his fly in a cattail. About ten minutes later he got back to fishing. When he caught up with us to report on his success with the knots and fish that he caught around the lake, he also had a great story about ducklings that came over to investigate him while he was sitting on the bank working on his knots.

Both boys have heard me talk about the San Juan River and the Colorado River at Lees Ferry and let me know that sounded like something that they would like to try too. Although Ayden is coming along quite well, he is not yet ready for Lees Ferry. I have a trip planned for him to go to Silver Creek instead. I feel a lot more comfortable with him going after big trout from the banks of Silver Creek, rather than wading the Colorado River. His time will come!

I had worked through a plan in my mind for fishing with Owen when we were at Lees Ferry. I thought we would fish the Walk-In area when we arrived on Friday afternoon, then the full day with the guide upriver on Saturday, and maybe a little more time at the Walk-In on Sunday morning before heading home. I had not anticipated that Owen would also have been mapping out the weekend. He had developed a great plan for success on this trip. His goal on Friday afternoon at the Walk-In was not to catch fish, but rather to improve his casts and learn how to work his fly with the correct drift in the Colorado River. Don't get me wrong, he would have been thrilled to catch a fish or two, but as we walked back to the car after fishing, it was clear

that he was very pleased with the afternoon and felt that he was ready for the day upriver tomorrow when he knew he had a much greater likelihood of success.

Saturday morning was cold, but had an auspicious beginning. While we were standing on the boat dock before getting in the boat, a beaver came swimming downriver directly toward us. When he caught sight of us, rather than flap his tail and swim away, he swam right under us. It was amazing seeing a beaver that close and we both knew we were in for a good day.

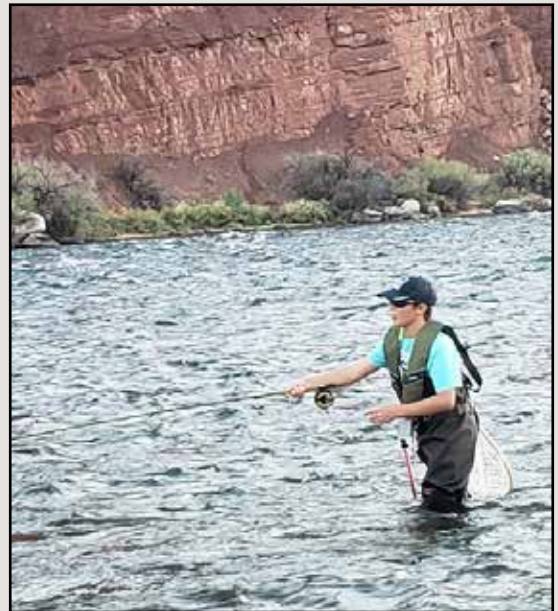
While Owen has looked to me as his fly fishing expert, I reminded him that our guide, Dave Foster (leesferryonthefly.com) was going to teach both of us how to be successful in catching trout at Lees Ferry. When I fished with Dave before, I was amazed at his ability to see trout where I could not. He always knows the perfect seam to drift a fly, and does a fantastic job of communicating that perfect drift so that you are successful throughout the day.

This was a new way of fishing with Owen for me. This time, I watched from two hundred feet downstream as he listened attentively to the guide and got better and better by the minute at hooking the wily Colorado River rainbows. Within an hour or so, he had gone from missing fish, to hooking them briefly, to consistently landing fish. Soon Dave left him on his own, and came down to give me some tips. We could hear the shouts of "missed him", as well as the hoots of "fish on" which left us both beaming.

At lunch, Owen was offered another challenge. Prior to this trip, the roll cast has been his dominant cast. After lunch, he got an overhand casting lesson from Dave in preparation for an opportunity to try for trout on a dry fly. He was up to the challenge and caught and landed his first trout on a dry fly. Fortunately, I had worked upstream close enough to him to get a picture of the battle and hear his yells of excitement.

I say this often when I get a chance to fish with my grandkids, it doesn't get any better than that!

Catch Jim at: jimstrog@gmail.com





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A big thank you to Desert Fly Casters... ...from DFC Board Member, JC Roberson



From Sept. 17th through Sept. 20th, DFC and Billy Wingo hosted an outing to the San Juan river in northern New Mexico. Two disabled veterans and one volunteer from the Phoenix Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing program accompanied the DFC group. David Callaghan and Larry LaPrairie were the veterans and JC Roberson was the volunteer accompanying the veterans. DFC sponsored one of the veterans. Neither veteran had much experience fly fishing or trout fishing so this trip was going to be an new and exciting adventure. After two days of drift boating down the San Juan, you should have seen the look on both their faces, pure ecstasy.

David said, "What an amazing trip! The guides were wizards! I've never caught so many fish so quickly. And these fish put up a fight! What a breathtaking part of the country, too. A thousand thank you's DFC and PHWFF!"

Larry commented, "The San Juan outing was the greatest 'CATCHING' experience of my life. The guides were great at taking us to the prime 'CATCHING' locations and of course selecting and equipping us with the proper 'CATCHING' flies."

Thank You Desert Fly Casters for hosting both veterans and sponsoring one of them on a fishing trip they will remember for a long time.

Phoenix Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing veterans are eagerly looking forward to returning to the San Juan River next year

JC Roberson • jcroberson27@gmail.com
DFC Board member and PHWFF veteran



A Collector of Fishing Reels and Other Memorabilia

with Jon P. Kring



I was bitten by the bug of collecting fishing items many years ago. My Dad started me out fishing at an early age. Reels from my Dad's tackle box began my quest. Reels do not have to have monetary value but rather sentimental value to be meaningful. I am now 73 years young. I belong to a great group of individuals known as *The Old Reel Collectors Association*. ORCA for short and have served as their librarian the past few years. People have often asked me, "is that a group of old guys who collect reels...or a group that collects old reels?" The answer is both.

It is made up of individuals who enjoy collecting, research, history and a camaraderie. Our members collect every type of reel ever made, be it fly reels, bait casting and spin casting reels. Some of these reels are rare and are valued at \$50,00, and beyond. I have to admit, I have none like that in my collection, although, I do admire something of value like that. Much history for sure in just that one reel! In my personal collection, I have 800 reels and probably over 100 rods, both new and old. Some of the members collect to make money, not I. I have rarely sold anything I've bought over the years. Most of my treasured collections are casting or fly reels. Many of our members enjoy fishing with these old relics. As much as I admire the interest in antiquity fishing like this, guess it's not for me. There is so much knowledge among our ORCA members it's somewhat spellbinding. Also among my collection, I've acquired many books that are handy on my bookshelf for a quick read, some are authored by club members. In fact one of our members owns a publishing company specializing in fishing and tackle books.

We have members across the country and world wide. I consider some of our ORCA members as very close friends, yet, we have never met in person and maybe never will. The internet has been the link to many of these friends throughout the years- bring us close together. ORCA plans a National Convention and Show each year held at various locations and is a 4 day event. The show brings old and new members together with events such as: fishing competitions, casting competitions, seminars, dinners and a chance to meet like minded collectors. ORCA maintains a website: www.orcaonline.org with a vast amount of available information. Membership is \$40 a year which includes the Reel News Magazine, published 6 times a year. It's a great publication packed with articles and information.

Although I'm not an avid fly fisherman. I do get out occasionally. One trip I remember shortly after I graduated from college, I fished the famous Au Sable river in northern Michigan- using a fiberglass rod and Shakespeare Au Sable reel from my early collection days. I also enjoy gathering and reading publications from around the world. Your Deseret Fly Casters monthly newsletters you send out are enjoyable- thank you for keeping me on your list.

As I think back over the years to my first experiences fly fishing in the early '60's, I remember buying a fiberglass rod from K-Mart and an automatic Shakespeare reel with money saved from my paper route. I fished with friends outside of Kokomo (Indiana). It was probably some old pit, and no doubt posted, fishing with a wooden popper fancied with feathers to make it fish appealing. Catching was great, but skills weren't really needed. Just being out with friends and fishing with my buddies was all anyone needed. A couple of fly reels in my collection, which are still my favorites are a Pflueger Golden West, a Shakespeare Au Sable and a Goite Reel- made in Kokomo, IN.

Many ORCA members have web sites as I also do. And if you consider obtaining a rod or reel, many have some choice items for sale. There's always something worthy to add to your personal fly fishing arsenal. You can checkout my web pages at: www.jonkringsfishingreels.com. [weebly.com](http://www.weebly.com) Here I have nothing for sale- I'm enjoying what I have and still have an eye for maybe something else to drop in my collection.



Questions and/or Comments catch Jon at:
joncarolkring@gmail.com

Mogollon Stream Habitat Restoration...



**Notes from:
Curtis Gill
November
DFC Speaker**

The Arizona Game and Fish Department has been working to restore riparian and in-stream habitats associated with streams located immediately below the Mogollon Rim north and east of Payson. A need for stream habitat restoration has been identified as a result of catastrophic flooding following wildfires, grazing, recreational activities and timber harvest that have degraded the quality of habitat for fish and wildlife over the years. Enhancing and restoring the natural riparian vegetation will promote the biodiversity of wildlife that inhabit or utilize the associated wetland habitat, while also protecting and improving the water quality and the fisheries resources. These projects are designed to be collaborative with various agencies, stakeholders, constituent groups, and volunteer organizations.

To date, the Department has restored in-stream and riparian habitat in Tonto Creek, Canyon Creek, Haigler Creek and Christopher Creek. In total, over four miles of stream have been restored as a result of these projects. Future plans call for improving habitat in the East Verde River (Winter 2018/2019) and Dude Creek. The Department will also pursue other opportunities that become available in the future to improve habitat for native and wild trout and other native fish species below the Mogollon Rim.



Desert Fly Caster's November Conservation Corner

Notes from:
Joe Miller
DFC Board Member

Lees Ferry Update -

DFC deserves a big "Thanks!" for participating in the Comment Letter campaign on the NPS Non-Native Invasive Species Draft EA. President Frank and a number of members submitted comment letters in early October expressing our views and concerns about how efforts to control Brown Trout might have adverse effects on the Blue Ribbon Rainbow Trout Fishery. Newsletter Editor Bob McKeon deserves a Special CHEER! for a great job of getting information out to his extensive "Network" of contacts in the broad community. Frequent Newsletter contributor Jim Strogon contributed analysis and guidance, and the AZGFD has continued to monitor and provide key input to the NPS about proposed management actions. Well Done All!

The next EA milestone will be when the Final version is released end of January, 2019. We'll be ready to report on NPS' response to everyone's inputs.

Also, there will likely be a stocking of catchable Rainbows in and around the Walk-In Area in mid November. If you catch a tagged fish up there, be sure to report it! In the meantime, upriver fishing has been pretty good. A High Flow Event is expected in early November, so check before you go.

Mogollon Rim Area Stream Restoration -

Curt Gill AZGFD Aquatic Wildlife Program Manager, will update us on fisheries Restoration efforts past, present and future, on some of those streams we fish a lot at our November meeting. See the announcement of his program elsewhere in this Newsletter and on the DFC Website.

Tiger Trout! -

There have been very recent reports from some Payson Fly Casters that Tiger Trout are Fishing Very Well on Woods Canyon and Willow Springs, including from the shore. On Dries, too! So head up to the High Country and give them a try.

Need more information?

Contact: DFC Trout Bum Joe Miller at jamiller101@gmail.com.

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ASU Research Park (middle lake)

Host: Grant Berkowitz • gjberk@gmail.com • cell phone: 480-313-4270



AWESOME!!

**Memorable trip for grand-
dad...Fishing at Lees Ferry.**

Jim Strogon •

jimstrog@gmail.com

Editor's Ramblings...

What a great experience- keeping the pas-
sion alive like this for another generation
of fly fishing...Nice trip, Jim. And. thanx for
sharing this with all of us DFC Trout Bums.
(...see page 4 for story)

So maybe one of you DFC Trout Bums
can send me a favorite catch for a future
issue.

...Good Catch, Owen
R.McKeon, Editor
rmckeon2@cox.net

