



NEWSLETTER

Established 1996

P.O. Box 2187, Pinetop, AZ 85935

February 2012

WMFFC Mission Statement:

The Mission Statement of the White Mountain Fly Fishing Club is: "To assist in the development and maintenance of fly fishing opportunities and to promote and participate in fly fishing in its many forms."

We support the practice of "Catch and Release." We support the use of barbless hooks and harmless netting-and-release practices. Fish should never be held out of water for longer than you can hold your breath.

"Tight Lines"—President's Column:

Greetings from Arizona and the California wine tasting country. I've been looking for trout but not very diligently. Trout fishing is just around the corner so keep sharpening those hooks, tying flies, and patching leaky waders and float tubes. Speaking of fly tying, I want to thank Dennis Jones and crew for doing a great job with the fly tying classes in January. Classes will continue the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Thursday in February at the Show Low VFW hall.

The White Mountain Fly Fishing Club working with the AZ Game & Fish Department (Thank you Richard Dreyer et. all) has received approval to improve the fishing habitat of Silver Creek. The approvals were from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Army Corps of Engineers, and the State Land Department.

Silver Creek will be turned into an actual stream environment. Rocks and boulders will be strategically placed throughout the creek to provide holding cover and diverse flow currents similar to an actual trout stream. This will not only enhance the fishing experience for fishermen and women but will create habitat for aquatic insects necessary for a healthy fishery.

Here is an example of what this can do for fishing: I was fortunate to take one of the Veterans from our Project Healing Waters class (Thank you Craig Harmon, leader of the program) out fishing last summer to learn stream fly fishing. We found 2 or 3 underwater rocks to fish near and he caught 5 and missed many more. This project will be a major undertaking requiring help from club members and possibly the assistance from other Arizona Fly Fishing Clubs. The project will be scheduled either in March, April or May as soon as we can get dry conditions for the heavy equipment.

Also, remember the International Sports Expo (ISE show) is scheduled for February 24th-26th at University of Phoenix Cardinal Stadium. It's a fun time for all who partake.

I want to thank all the members who took the time to send their comments in on the Glen Canyon Study program and encouraging the blue ribbon fishery enhancement for the Lee's Ferry ecosystem for both native and non-native (Big Trout) species. Special thanks to Jerry Myers' diligent work on this study. THANK YOU.

Bass fishing starts turning on in late February and March at Roosevelt Lake. Guess where I'll be? Please call me if you want to go fishing. See you on the water.

"Many go fishing all their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after." Henry David Thoreau

Michael Smith, President
www.wmflyfishing.com

2012 WMFFC Board Members

President:	Mike Smith.....	(602) 316-0948
Past President:	Ken Wolf.....	(928) 367-0936
Vice President:	Jerry Myers.....	(480) 820-9709
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Outings Chairman:	Ted Lambert.....	(928) 537-2115
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February Monthly Meeting is at 6:30PM

Agenda:

- Social Hour – (5:30PM) *(Buy your Raffle Tickets!!!)*
- Call to Order -- (6:30PM)
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Introduction of Guests and New Members
- Committee Reports
- Business
- Fish Tales

February Program – Ken Wolf and the club members that went to Alaska this last summer will share the excitement of their trip, pictures and fishing opportunities. It will be an experience to enjoy and maybe make you think, "I should join the next club trip to a fishery I might not go on my own."

March Program - will be given by Ray Ganey on the ***Wind River Mountains: The Holy Trifecta – Goldens, Cutthroats and Brookies.*** More details in next months' Newsletter.

2012 January Outing— Silver Creek ... by Ted Lambert, Outings Chairman

The forecast for the day was for high winds up to 50 MPH gusts. That morning when I first went outside, it was quite calm at my place. But as the day progressed, the wind started to pick up. By the time I got to Silver Creek, she was blowing pretty “good”. Only five members showed up. The rest of you, understandably hearing the forecast opted to do something else.

The fishing was difficult to say the least, because of the wind. And the fish were not eager to take what we were showing them. Mike did the best among us. He caught a few using a leach. They didn't want my Woolly Bugger - Zebra Midge Combination. Rick and Steve said they had some strikes and if I understood them right, they didn't land any. The best I can say is Wade, Steve and I tried.

By eleven o'clock, the wind had picked up and was howling pretty good, so we headed back to the trailer. We set up the new metal table and the new camp stove, along with one of our grills and fixed lunch. I just want to say here that I really like the new metal table and new camp stove. They are real good additions to our equipment. We fixed hot dogs and hot chocolate and hot apple cider, along with a pasta salad and brownies. It's amazing how good food can taste when you are outside in the elements as we were. We had a good time and I believe that's the important thing.

But me is a'thinkin man and my thought is: in the future we might look at doing something inside for our winter outings that we have up here on the mountain. A craft day or swap meet are some of the first things that come to mind. A casting contest and knot tying contest also might be a good idea. Let me or the board members know what you think and if you have any more ideas, please let us know.

See you at our next outings, Ted

Treasurer's Report ... Submitted by Dawn Hewitt, Treasurer

The current bank balance is \$12,622.77 of which \$2,480.00 was deposited for payment for the Lee's Ferry Trip. The true balance is \$10,142.77.

It's time for us to begin working on our donations for this June's fund raising banquet. I'll be working with Georganne to get our donation request letters out to commercial vendors. We will need your help to begin visiting local establishments to solicit their help. You all have some special creative talents so get working on some special items for our raffle. Think about asking your hairdresser, barber, manicurist, doctor, massage therapist for a donation of their service. It could lead to them getting some new clients. Since we can now operate as a 501(c)(3) non-profit all donations are tax deductible and we will issue statements to all donors.

CAN YOU PLEASE HELP.....We still need a volunteer would be willing to do a review of our 2010/2011 financial records. We NEED do this annually to ensure accuracy and compliance with our bylaws and the IRS reporting requirements. It is a fairly simple task of reconciling transactions recorded to bank statements and other financial records. Please contact me at azsunrise47@yahoo.com or at 480-695-3965 if you'd be willing to help.

Other Items – 2012 Fly Tying Classes... Submitted by Dennis Jones

Fly Tying Classes are being held at the Show Low VFW Hall on N. Central Ave. (Right behind CVS Pharmacy.) The first set of classes that were scheduled in January has been great with a good turnout. We have had “joint” classes, one for beginners and one for the more experienced tiers, all at the same time in the same room. Ken Wolf instructed the experienced tiers at the first class. Mike Styvaert conducted experienced tiers at the second and Bud Huth at the last meeting in January. I have been mostly helping beginners, with lots of good assistance from several other Club members (thanks guys). The club provides all the tying materials and tools so you just need to come and enjoy. Fly tying classes will resume on February 9th, 16th, and 23rd at 6 to 8pm. The WMFFC offers many THANKS to the VFW for the use of their facility.

If you want to learn more about fly tying without leaving home then there is a good local TV show called “Fly Tying: the Angler’s Art” which airs on Cable TV on Channel 4. Program times are Sunday and Thursday at 8 am, Tuesday at 3 pm, and Saturday at 8:30 pm. The tying is done by LeRoy Hyatt and his commentator is Dave Engerbretson. Unfortunately Dave passed away in 2003. LeRoy is a professional fly-tier, fly tying columnist, and instructor. Past seasons’ shows, new episodes, along with Dave’s successor Carolyn Sells, are available on the internet. “The series instructs individuals in the art of tying fly patterns for fishing; addressing tying techniques, use of materials, and presentation of flies. The 30 minute programs also examine how and why patterns attract fish.” Log into <http://kwsn.org/> and go to the “On-Demand Online” section and look for the title. Or you can log directly onto <http://kwsu.org/offers/flytying.aspx>; there you will find three seasons of tying videos, each featuring about three different flies. Season one is not available, probably because it is available for purchase on DVD. LeRoy is a great tier and the shows are fun to watch Dennis Jones

January 2012 Meeting Minutes ... Submitted by Georganne Jannenga, Secretary/Public Relations

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was said.

Membership: There were no new members present tonight, but there was one new member at the Christmas party. One guest, Kevin F., was introduced this evening.

Secretary Report: A motion was made to approve the minutes from the November, 2011 general meeting, since there was no general membership meeting in December. The minutes were posted in the December newsletter. Mike made a motion to accept the minutes as written and Nick seconded the motion. The motion passed and the minutes were approved as written.

Outings: Ted Lambert stated that this month's outing will be this coming Saturday, 1/21 at Silver Creek. Dawn and Michael said it was okay to use the “man cave” for the luncheon following. However only there were only a handful of people expressed interest in going on the outing so it was decided that hot dogs and chili would be brought to the outing and something hot to drink. Ted reminded everyone to bring their fishing license on Saturday.

Ted stated that Hawley Lake is scheduled to be drained and it was on our schedule to fish in August so we will need to come up with an alternative. The fish from Hawley Lake are supposed to be transplanted to Earl Park Lake. The February outing is scheduled for Dead Horse Lake near Cottonwood and will be a joint outing with the AZ Fly Casters. March outing will be to Show Low Lake. April will be a trip to Roosevelt Lake. Bill to teach members how to catch bass on a fly rod. There is currently no slot limit at Roosevelt because the fishing is so good.

Jerry Myers said that all 12 positions for the Lee's Ferry trip scheduled for Feb. 28 thru March 1st are once again filled, but we could use a back-up person in case someone cancels at the last minute. Feb. 28th will be fishing the walk-in, the Feb. 29th will be fishing with the 6 guides, and March 1st fish the walk-in in the morning. The flows are down to 15,500.

Dennis Jones mentioned that Terry Gunn has a new website up which shows how to rig your rods to fish the Ferry, introduces all the guides, gives fishing reports and rates the current fishing conditions. Go to: www.LeesFerryAnglers.com.

Dennis also stated that there will be another fly-tying class tomorrow night at the VFW from 6 to 8 p.m. All the tools, materials and vises are available free of charge. There were 12 to 14 attendees the first night, with four beginners. The VFW is on Central; turn at the CVS Pharmacy.

Vice President's Report: Jerry passed the fishing buddy list around. He also mentioned to start thinking about donations for our annual banquet which is only five months away.

New Business: None

Fish Tales: were told. Mixed reports on fishing Silver Creek. Not many people have been fishing lately. However, Mike Anderson with Game and Fish caught a 24 inch brown at Lee's Ferry. Jerry Myers reminded everyone that after age 70, and after living in AZ for 25+ years, a person qualifies for a free combo license from Game and Fish, which also includes being able to fish the urban lakes.

Raffle: Craig stated that we collected \$115 from the sale of tonight's raffle tickets. The raffle was held.

Presentation: Jerry Myers introduced our speakers for the evening, Aaron Bunch and Mike Anderson, both of AZ Game and Fish, who gave an interesting presentation after a short break regarding historical and recent developments of our Lee's Ferry fishery.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm Georganne Jannenga

IF YOU ARE FISHING AT BECKER LAKE AND OBSERVE VIOLATIONS OF THE NEW "CATCH AND RELEASE" POLICY PLEASE CALL OPERATION GAME IMMEDIATELY AT 1-800-352-0700.



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