



NEWSLETTER

Established 1996

P.O. Box 2187, Pinetop, AZ 85935

November 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:

Well the Big Game hunting season for me is complete for 2012. With 6 hunts over 6 weeks its time to pack away my gear and get back to fishing.

To spare ink and repetition the majority of what I would say in my Tight Lines is covered in the Presidents Report for the Oct 24th Club meeting minutes. As you can see the club was quite busy during October with many great outings, projects and Festivals. Thank you to all of you that contributed to these events.

As listed under the Upcoming Events section, we have 2 more fly tying classes scheduled in November, the monthly meeting on the 21st (day before Thanksgiving), a Becker Lake outing on the 24th and the Christmas party at Pinetop Country Club on December 15th at 5:30 PM.

At the next meeting we will have a donation box for non-perishable Thanksgiving grocery items. As in years past, we make a donation to the Love Kitchen to help with their efforts to feed the hungry. Donations of Gift Cards to Walmart or Safeway are also helpful. We will also be accepting cash or check donation to Friends of CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) which provides support to children who have been removed from their homes. The club will be matching those funds donated up to a total of \$400. Last year we were able to donate over \$600 which was sorely needed.

I want to wish all of you a happy and healthy Thanksgiving and a great holiday season.

"Smooth runs the water where the brook is deep." William Shakespeare

Tight Lines and Easy Mends,

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:	Richard Dreyer	(928) 368-3562
Secretary:	Georganne Jannenga	(602) 320-6388
Treasurer:	Sparky Snyder	(928-521-0929
Board Member #1:	Bob Bowers	(928) 367-5579
Board Member #2:	Craig Harmon	(928) 532-1372
Board Member #3:	Dennis Jones	(928-367-6124
Membership Chairman:	Steve Hofmann	(623) 262-7491
Conservation Chairman:	Gary Miller	(602) 439-3262
Newsletter Chairman:	Dawn Hewitt	(480) 695-3965
	& Steve Hofmann	(623) 262-7491
Outings Chairman:	VACANT :	<i>Please Consider</i>



"Sorry, pal. Illiteracy is no excuse for breaking the law."

Volunteering- it does not take much work!

Duties of the Outing Chairperson: You do not have to run every outing but find members to sponsor the events.

A. Outings

1. In consultation with the **Board**, plan a schedule of outings throughout the **fiscal** year to accommodate a wide variety of fishing interests and opportunities.
2. Prepare and submit a schedule of outing dates, times, places and directions to Newsletter Editor three months in advance. (Arrange for 5 to 6 members to sponsor 1 to 2 outings a year. The sponsor's will lead each outing.)
3. Assume custody and responsibility for Club owned Outings equipment and supplies. (Nick Cuilty has graciously allowed us to park the trailer in his yard.)
4. Prepare and submit a timely monthly article or articles to the Newsletter Editor of the previous months outing(s). (Have sponsor submit article.)
5. Maintain and submit to the Treasurer a current inventory of all Club Outings equipment at the end of the membership year (June).

November 21st Monthly Meeting at 6:30PM – Lakeside Firehouse

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

Program – A representative of Arizona Game & Fish Department will address the proposed license simplification legislation. Potential benefits include establishment of a simpler, easier-to-understand license structure.

Dawn will also present a slide show of the San Juan River Outing with Troops First and Wounded Warrior participants.

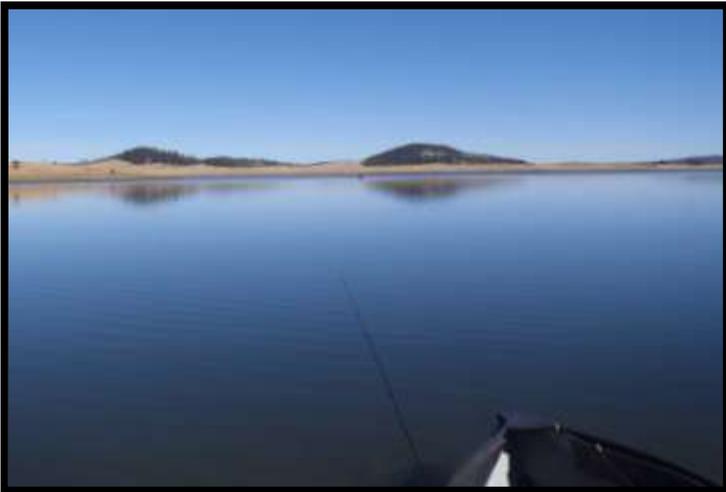
IF YOU ARE FISHING AT BECKER LAKE AND OBSERVE VIOLATIONS OF THE NEW “CATCH AND RELEASE” POLICY PLEASE CALL OPERATION GAME THEIR IMMEDIATELY AT 1-800-352-0700.

2012 Outings and & Events... Outings Chairman – Vacant



Winner of Raffle at September meeting for the special Brian Mancini framed artwork. Congrats John Stoner.

October 27th Outing at Big Lake.....Submitted by Steve Hofmann



The WMFFC October outing was held at Big Lake on Saturday, October 27th. It was a spectacular fall day with no wind in the morning. Unfortunately we only had 7 members present and only 4 were fishing. The 4 fisherman participating were: Bob Henry, Dennis Jones, Don Gage and Steve Hofmann. Jim Natcher and Bill Langdon and his wife Luann were there set up and cook the lunch goodies. (Bill was not fishing unbelievable! I think he must have had a fever!)

You won't often see Big Lake this calm.

The fish were biting to some extent. Dennis had the best day. He reported over 10 fish caught in the morning. Three were reported to be in the 15 to 18 inch range. All beautiful rookies! Dennis was fishing in “Railroad Cove” area. I believe Dennis said he was using a darker color cone head type ‘Woolley Burger’. Don Gage also reported having a good morning catching Brookies in railroad cove also using a streamer. Steve Hofmann caught 3 stocker rainbows in the morning and one nice 17 + inch brookie in the afternoon. The brookie was caught on a Black Burgermister with flashing in the tail. Bob Henry had near misses in the morning, but finished with 7 nice ‘bows’ in the afternoon in the cove to the right of the boat dock. The wind kicked up a little in the afternoon, but the 4 fisherman went back out for more fishing fun.

October 16th – 19th San Juan River Outing with Troops First Marines and Wounded Warrior Project Soldiers.....Submitted by Dawn Hewitt

It was the Club’s privledge to host 5 troops for 2 full days of guided fly fishing on the San Juan River this past month. The Troops First Marines were flown in from the east coast to Albuquerque by Troops First Foundation, Staff Sergeant Glen Silva, Jacob Hightower, Michael Cervantes, along with Wounded Warrior

Project (WWP) participants Marie Vrba and Elisa Wyatt. Marie and Elisa were flown by WWP from Phoenix to Farmington, NM.

WMFFC arranged for the marines to stay overnight in Albuquerque upon their arrival Monday evening and again prior to their departure on Saturday. The club also arranged for a rental car for transportation to and from the San Juan. A generous donor, who heard about our event, donated the use of his 3 bedroom home in Navajo Dam just down the street from Abe's where the club was staying. The marines and Eric Ortegren, one of the troops we hosted last year and skipper of our boat Float for the Fallen, were all lodged at the house. On Tuesday the 16th everyone arrived at Abe's and purchased fishing licenses and got settled in their rooms before heading up the the house for a meet and greet social with appetizers provided by the Club. Frank Powell donated and prepared a fabulous steak dinner with all the trimmings for 25+ people. Charcoal grills were hijacked from Abe's to augment the one at the house and were returned without ransom. Thank you Frank for you generosity and GREAT dinner.



Following dinner, members prepared chest packs donated by Bass Pro by filling them with the necessary fly fishing tools that would be needed. The packs along with Bass Pro hats and WMFFC hats were presented to each of the troops. The last thing accomplished on Tuesday evening was a joint lunch preparation via assembly line production for the troops, guides and member accompanying each troop.

Members filling the Bass Pro Packs

Wednesday kicked off with the usual buffet breakfast at Abe's before heading out for the river. Guide boats were launched, lunches and beverages distributed, and the fishing adventures began.

I was in the boat with Elisa and San Juan Guide Mark Nesbitt of Blue Sky Guide Service. Elisa had never fly fished so there were some preliminary instructions on basic casting, mending and hook set by Mark. Within minutes Elisa had her first fish. Her total for the day was 23 on hook and 17 to the boat. Not too shabby for a first time fly fisher.



Elisa's First Fish with Mark Nesbitt



Michael, one of the Marines with guide Paul of Paradise Anglers

All the troops caught fish and had a great day even though the wind was way too strong and kept everyone at Texas Hole with the exception of Pat North who braved the torrent and made his way down to Crusher Hole.



Staff Sergeant Glen Silva with his first fish



Dave Beucler working with Glen

After the end of day one of fishing everyone headed off to the Sportsman's Inn for a celebratory dinner. The evening progressed with lots of revelry and anticipation of another day of fishing on Thursday.



Elisa, now that is what I call a fish.



The troops and WMFFC members

Thursday, just like Wednesday, started with another buffet breakfast and then a photo session with Bass Pro and WMFFC Banners. Thursdays weather cooperated to allow all the boats to float from Texas Hole to Crusher Hole and give everyone an opportunity to experience real drift fishing. Another wonderful day. Reports from all of the troops were that everyone caught fish and had a wonderful experience.

A final gathering Thursday evening was again held at Sportsman's to celebrate the culmination of another wonderful event with our troops. It was a very rewarding experience for our members and guides. Two full days of guided fishing, lodging, and meals were provided to give each of our troops a special and healing experience.



Consider a Tax Deductible Donation to help our Troops.



Jason kissing his first fish.



Hey from Marie. Love that smile.



Thank you Bass Pro for your generous donation and helping make this trip special for the troops. Thanks also to Feherty's Troops First Foundation for providing air transportation for the Marines and to Wounded Warrior Project, which provided air transportation for our lady troops, one Navy and one Air Force veterans.

Upcoming Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>
November		
8 th	Fly Tying	
15 th	Fly Tying	
21st	Monthly Meeting 6:30 Lakeside Firehouse	
24 th	Monthly Outing - Becker Lake	Jim Natcher
December		
15th	Christmas Party – Changed to Pinetop Country Club at 5:30 P.M. Tickets will be \$20 per person for a Ham or Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings. There will be a White Elephant Gift Exchange (for those that wish to participate). Gifts should be nominal and fun.	<i>Need Volunteer Chairperson</i>

Treasurer's Report ... Submitted by Sparky Snyder, Treasurer

Current bank balance is \$21,259.99.

October 24th 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 recited. The President called last call for raffle tickets.

Secretary's Report: Georganne asked for a motion from the floor to approve the September general meeting minutes which were published in the October newsletter. Dawn made a motion and Nick seconded the motion. A vote was taken to approve the minutes. The minutes were accepted as written.

Public Relations: Georganne stated that we are receiving excellent coverage in the Independent newspaper and that the new sports editor, Terry Corrigan, would welcome any ideas for fishing-related articles. Bob Bowers stated that there have been excellent articles in the Maverick Magazine as well.

Treasurer's Report: Sparky stated that the bank balance is currently \$22,576.46. Michael said that about \$9,500 to \$10,000 of that is money collected for the Troops/Wounded Warriors trips and that the balance is for our Club projects. Georganne asked if now, as a 501 (c)(3), there is any danger of having our bank balance over \$20K. Michael said only if our net goes over a certain amount.

Membership Report: We have two new members tonight: Nick Latore & Pete Rosenau. Pete is a professional photographer who took over 4000 pictures at our Troops First trip to the San Juan River. Steve stated that we now have 94 paid members, and the unpaid members, about 21, will be dropped. It was also mentioned that you can get license plates for your vehicles at High Country Design for \$16 + tax, as well as AZ Conservation plates. Also High Five has special decals available for our Club.

Librarian's Report: Gail stated that we have an extensive library of books and DVD's so to take advantage of them. The library is kept at Lyle's Pinetop Sporting Goods store.

Outings Report: A report was given on the recent outing to Horseshoe Cienega. Mike Styavert caught the big fish of the trip and there was a great potluck. We also had a couple of new members show up and experienced Club members helped teach them how to fly fish. This month's trip will be to Big Lake and Jim Natcher will be the host. Richard fished there recently and caught 25 fish with Mike Yaeger's fly. Meet at the South cove past the main boat ramp. There will be a potluck. Mike stated that he is still seeking an Outings Chairman; someone to just organize and find five people a year to each host two outings. Jim Natcher will also host the outing to Becker Lake in November. There are no outings in December and January. The Outings Chairman's duties are just to find five people, attend Board meetings and check on the supplies in our trailer. The President should not be expected to head up all these various committees.

President's Report: Michael stated that we have been a very busy Club since our last meeting. We had the clean-up of Fool's Hollow Lake in early October; only a couple of people showed up but the Lake was pretty clean so it was no big deal. October 1st was the opening day of Catch and Release on Silver Creek. Somewhere between 900 and 1100 fish were stocked 9/30 and 10/1. Silver Creek is now more of a fishing stream than a canal, due to our Club's efforts. AZ Game and Fish, Show Low High School Fishing Club & Special Needs kids, Cabela's, Project Healing Waters and our Club members enjoyed a lunch on 10/1. Cabela's provided the food for between 60 and 75 people and our Club provided the awnings, etc. Every kid caught fish and it was a great outing; very well done by Cabela's and AZ G & F. There is now cloth on the dam at Silver Creek which raised the water by 6 inches. This is the first time that G & F have stocked trout in the Silver Creek system. A 21 ¾ inch trout was caught there today by Jim. It was stated that it is a great place to take kids to fish; if a child is under 14 they don't need a license. One member said that several people thanked him when he was there for the work our Club did on the Creek. There are now logs at the Creek to sit on and we will plant cottonwood trees there this coming winter/spring (before bud out).

Then on Oct. 7th our Club hosted the Casting for Recovery luncheon. The event was held at Whispering Pines and Sierra Springs. There were 14 breast cancer survivors and 14 pond pals who taught them how to fly cast. Our Club hosted their luncheon on Sunday from 12 noon to 2 p.m. and there were prizes awarded. It was a great event. Saturday 10/6 was also the Wildlife Festival that Bob Bowers headed up. It is a Wildlife event for kids. Bob said it got busy; we had 10 to 12 members there throughout the event to help the kids.

Then on Wednesday, 10/26 we had our banquet for the Wounded Warriors at Torreon Country Club. 160 people attended; there was a raffle and silent auction. Videos were shown. We raised nearly \$11,000, which all goes towards the Troops, and we will do it again next year! We just took five soldiers to the San Juan River in NM; 2 Marines, 1 Navy Corpsman and 2 females, one Air Force (with severe injuries) and one Navy. One of the Troops was from Texas. They had a ball; all caught fish. A private donor from San Antonio, TX donated his home for the Troops to stay in. Twelve to fourteen of our Club members attended. There was a huge steak fry. All the Troops fished with professional guides. The group enjoyed two wonderful buffets. The two female participants said it was the best experience of their lives! Lees' Ferry in the spring will also be a good place to also take the soldiers.

A fly tying class was recently scheduled but there was no one to tie and no one to open the door. Michael apologized and stated that we are in need of an Education Chairman to coordinate these types of events to make sure this does not happen again and also to help with the Scouts. The fly tying will again be held in November, the 2nd, 3rd & 4th Thursdays of the month at the Navajo County Health Center. We have the Center reserved all through next year for these classes. We need a Chairman to find three people a month and line them up as fly tiers. We will have one more fly tying class this month on Tuesday, 10/30, but we normally do the classes on Thursdays. Rick volunteered to take over. We will get him a list of every Club member. Sparky volunteered to get the key there. We are scheduled all through 2013 at the Health Center location.

Our Christmas party for this year is scheduled at the Pinetop Country Club on Saturday, 12/15. Details will be on our website. Dinner will only be \$20 per person. The Club is decorated to the nines! It will be a real party with turkey & ham. Starts at 5:30. There will either be an ugly hat or some sort of contest. Also a white elephant gift exchange for under \$10.

Gary Miller and Pat North were able to assist someone who had a cardiac arrest on the San Juan River while wade fishing. Gary spoke about what happened. Fortunately he previously taught CPR. The air evac came in and took the person to a hospital in ABQ. Pat North also has CPR training. If it were not for Gary & Pat the gentleman probably would not have survived. A discussion was held about having CPR training for our Club. It was decided that we would try maybe an intro. class at our November meeting with additional training in the Spring. Barry suggested purchasing a defibrillator for our trailer to have at our Club outings, especially since the majority of our members are seniors. A further discussion was then held about having the defibrillator at every event. Jim White will investigate the cost of same.

Bob Bowers said that our Float for the Fallen boat was brought home after the San Juan trip because it needs work. The work is now being done. The boat will be at our next meeting. The rotor bearings are shot; the trailer needs work and it needs new fenders. The boat will be here for a month to get it fixed. Gary said they "killed it" at the San Juan; 20" fish were caught. Bob said the fishing was unbelievable. 200,000 trout are stocked in the San Juan; all from the NM hatcheries. There are 10,000 to 20,000 fish just in the Texas Hole alone and about 12,000 fish per mile on the river. Only 10% of the rainbows spawn.

Vice President's Report: Richard stated that we will have a representative from Game & Fish at our next meeting. G & F is trying to change to one fishing license and give the Commission control. G & F will look for our input as to this change.

Raffle: The monthly raffle was conducted.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.



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If you have an Ad or Article that you would like featured in the next Newsletter, please contact Steve Hofmann at sdieseldoc@cablone.net, 623-262-7491 or Dawn Hewitt at azsunrise47@yahoo.com, 480-695-3965.

**White Mountain Fly Fishing Club
P. O. Box 2187
Pinetop, AZ. 85935**

WMFFC Member Newsletter

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