



# NEWSLETTER

[wmflyfishingclub.com](http://wmflyfishingclub.com) New Web Site

Established 1996

P.O. Box 2187, Pinetop, AZ 85935

December 2017

## 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.

## President's Column:

Happy Holidays Everyone,

However you may celebrate your holidays, the WMFFC Board hopes that you are with the ones you love and that your New Year is your happiest and healthiest ever!

### Thanks Steve

A big thank you goes to Steve Hofmann for his presentation "Fishing Northern New Mexico and Southern Colorado Small Streams and Rivers" to the Club's members at the November meeting.

### Christmas Dinner/Party

A big thank you also goes out to Gary Miller, Dawn Hewitt and Mike Smith for stepping in to help with this year's December Christmas Dinner at Torreon Country Club. As many of you know, this has been organized by Bob Henry over the past years so they had big shoes to fill in a short period of time. Bob is at home in Tucson, where he and Bonnie are working hard on his rehabilitation program. He sounded very positive about this upcoming pacemaker surgery. We miss you Bob! Thanks for all who were able to attend the event!

### Membership Renewal

This will be the final call if you wish to continue receiving out monthly membership e-mails. As of January 1, 2018 you will no longer receive out monthly newsletter if your dues have not been paid. Obviously we want you to continue to be a member but we also have to pay the FFI (Fly Fishing International) dues from our club as well. If you wish to continue your membership, please mail your check for \$30 made out to WMFFC at P.O. Box 2187, Pinetop, AZ 85935. Our memberships run from July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>.

### Christmas Tree Lake Outing

On a more interesting topic, regarding out annual Christmas Tree Lake expedition/outing, I received the e-mail below from the White Mountain Apache Tribe ([WMATOutdoors@wmat.us](mailto:WMATOutdoors@wmat.us)). As you can see, their website is again having problems (some things never change):

*"The opening date for Christmas Tree in 2018 will be Memorial day. Permits will be available for purchase online beginning Jan 1<sup>st</sup> or Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, we are in the process of working on the digital calendar for our website."*

I would recommend on January 1<sup>st</sup> you try to register for a permit on the website [WMATOutdoors@wmat.us](mailto:WMATOutdoors@wmat.us) for \$30. Seeing how the opening day is Memorial Day this year, it might be better if we want to go as a Club, we try to register for Friday, June 1<sup>st</sup> this year.

This has always been a fun event and one that I personally look forward to kicking off my White Mountain fly fishing adventures.

#### **Check your Gear**

Don't forget to check out your fishing gear during the winter. It is a great time to get organized and Santa may be able to help you out with some of the discount prices that are currently available. Many suppliers are also trying to turn their stock over to new merchandise.

#### **Check Out Our New Web Site**

Don't forget to check out our new website at [www.wmflyfishingclub.com](http://www.wmflyfishingclub.com). You can also e-mail the club at [info@wmflyfishingclub.com](mailto:info@wmflyfishingclub.com). We are still looking for new photos/articles from our members. The more people who contribute, the more "hits" our web site will receive.

#### **Looking Forward to the New Year**

The Board is very much looking forward to planning for the New Year's activities. Some ideas we have already planned for are an opening season social at the Nature Center in Pinetop on May 19th, our annual fund raising banquet has been moved to September 8<sup>th</sup> and also planning monthly club trips on days other than the weekends as we have done in the past.

#### **Winter Meetings Continue**

We also want to remind you that our regularly scheduled monthly meeting will be continuing over the winter. Meetings are at 6:00 P.M. and same place, Lakeside Fire Station. January's program, according to Gary Miller, will be either fly tying or fishing knots. We will keep you posted as soon as it is determined.

Again, wishing you the best holidays ever and much happiness and health in the New Year to you and your family.

Tight Lines,  
Barry Curseaden  
President

---

### ***2017-18 WMFFC Board Members***

<b>President:</b>	Barry Curseaden	(623) 398-5242
<b>Vice President:</b>	Ted Lambert	(928) 537-2115
<b>Secretary:</b>	Dawn Hewitt	(480) 695-3965
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Bob Henry	(520) 260-8589
<b>Board Member at Large:</b>	Kevin Widner	(928) 339-4309
<b>Board Member at Large:</b>	Bob Sorsen	(928) 242-9961
<b>Board Member at Large:</b>	Gary Miller	(602) 478-0883
<b>Membership Chairman:</b>	Ted Lane	(520) 465-7789
<b>Conservation Chairman:</b>	Vacant	
<b>Education Chairman:</b>	Gary Miller	(602) 478-0883
<b>Newsletter Chairman:</b>	Vacant	
<b>Outings Chairman:</b>	Keith Spain	(520) 235-7206
<b>IFFF Representative:</b>	Gary Hall	(480) 510-7381

## ***General Monthly Meeting Minutes for October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017....submitted by Dawn Hewitt***

Meeting Called to Order at 6:30 by Barry Curseaden, President

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes from September meeting are published in Newsletter

Meeting Called to Order at 6:20 by Barry Curseaden, President

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes from September meeting are published in October Newsletter

Barry welcomed everyone.

### Committee Reports:

Treasury Report from Doris Miller - not present

Outings: Len Croteau, Board Member at Large, will talk later.

Membership: Ted Lane- not present

Secretary Newsletter – Nothing to announce.

John Potts: Liaison between the club and AZ Game & Fish – not present.

Education: Gary Miller- Not present

Apologies about not telling members about board meeting will do this in the future.

Len and the board have been talking about ways to make our outings better. For the spring we will have a welcome event at the Nature Center and at the Bob Bowers Casting Pond. Also we would be having some fishing contests at the fishing events. Len will be looking into different types of contests and talking to X-Diamond for an event there and Silver Creek and getting to fish the upper waters with access via the road. We want to encourage participation and reasons to pull the trailer. Contact Len with ideas of contests. We want to reinvigorate the club. We want to have a calendar up on the website as soon as possible. We can have the dates established and designate the waters later. Mike Smith and Len will be working on this.

Winter meeting schedule: The club is scheduled thru the winter on the third Wednesday. Barry will be meeting with Gary Miller and Ted Lambert to secure what will be offered at those meetings from November thru April. No meeting in December.

The Christmas Party at Torreon is on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December. We have Donna McGee lined up for entertainment. Don Gage is in charge and has been authorized up to \$300 to purchase prizes/gifts so everyone will get something. Everyone is to bring a gift of \$10 or less. Don Gage will MC and the gifts. We will need a cutoff date for reservations.

Steve Hofmann has volunteered to do a presentation at the November meeting. January – April are open. Barry asked the attendees what they would like to do during the winter. Eric would do something in January. Barry recommends having a vacuum for clean-up. Fly tying will also continue in February.

Brochures are ready and Barry had them for members to take some. They were done by White Mountain Independent and a professional photographer did some of the pictures. Patches and decals: Barry has been working with Pine Needle Embroidery for new patches. We are working on getting patches, decals, whistles and flies together over the winter for our welcome packets. We will be giving all members the small ones.

We also made a generic business card for any members that wish to have them to use.

Website, we have an e-mail address that will go to Dawn. If you have any pictures send them to Dawn or via [info@wmflyfishingclub.com](mailto:info@wmflyfishingclub.com). Give us some info on where the picture is from.

October 1<sup>st</sup> on Silver Creek for veterans: Eric Smith talked about one young veteran that was having a hard time. One of our members worked diligently with him where he casted, hooked a fish and then landed it. Dave McDougall did a great job with this young man and Eric and the club extended a round of applause for what he did to make this young man's day. Dave said he had a long talk with him at lunch. The expression on his face when he finally caught a fish was wonderful. It was a great experience for both of them.

San Juan trip was last week and there were 14 or 15 members including the veterans. Four vets flew in from Project Healing Waters in San Diego. We will plan on this again next year. People are asking why we are not able to get vets from AZ. We need to have the vets to be vetted and that they are okay to be in this situation. We will continue to work on trying to get veterans from AZ. Pat North and John Gerick from the San Juan were guides that donate their time and Eric Ortegren also was there to help with the "Float for the Fallen" boat.

Barry mentioned that we will put the Operation Game Thief number on our website as there has been a lot of violations at Silver Creek. Ken has been gone since October 2<sup>nd</sup> and there has not been anyone there to oversee. We will be looking into a volunteer program to patrol Silver Creek and or Becker. When our members are there we can advise violators of what the rules are. Mike Lopez will start pushing for some type of program with AZG&F for volunteers to be able to help.

Fish tales: Dave McDougall fished Silver Creek right out from the parking lot and caught 8 fish that measured 18 inches. Eric caught 3 fish on a dry fly. Three casts caught 3 fish. Len's friend landed a 20 inch fish at Drift Fence.

Len mentioned that several of his friends would like to learn to fly fish. We can work on having mentors to help with that. We can run clinics in the spring to address these needs.

Ted Lambert wanted to extend a big thank you to those that came out to help setup on the Saturday before the October 1<sup>st</sup> event.

Barry would like to get someone to volunteer to work with the Spring event. Len would need some help pulling together a program for this event.

Raffle:

Business Meeting over at 7:20PM

---

***Next Meeting January 17th Membership Meeting***

**6:00 PM** Timber Mesa Fire Station, Lakeside

## Christmas Dinner/Party at Torreon



If you have an Ad or Article that you would like featured in the next Newsletter, please contact Dawn Hewitt at [azsunrise47@yahoo.com](mailto:azsunrise47@yahoo.com), 480-695-3965.



**Cinda Howard**  
**(480) 217-5089**

e-mail: [cinda@flyfisharizona.com](mailto:cinda@flyfisharizona.com)  
[www.flyfisharizona.com](http://www.flyfisharizona.com)

*Specializing in guiding small streams  
and lakes throughout Arizona*

Hosted Travel • Fly Fishing Instruction  
• Corporate Events

Fly Fishing Guide Service  
Licensed for Arizona State and White Mountain Apache Tribe Waters