President’s Blog

It’s October, which means that the weather is cooler, and that it’s time to go to the San Juan River.

Speaking of which, there will be plenty of information on the San Juan at the October 9th general meeting. I will be filling in as speaker and will cover a wide range of topics, including locations on the river, equipment, fly selection, and techniques. Many of our members have enjoyed immense success on the San Juan, so the meeting will be a great opportunity to learn what often works on this premier fishery. Even if you are not joining us on the October trip, please join us at the meeting, as there will be a lot of information you can use on a future trip to the San Juan or many other rivers. Also, the San Juan pre-trip meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 14th at 7:00 PM at the Sunnyslope Community Center. That meeting is open to all members and is another great opportunity to gather information for the October trip or a future trip. The trip will take place October 18th through 22nd. AFC will be invading Abe’s Motel & Fly Shop and will have the largest group there. I will arrive on Friday, October 17th, a day early. If you have any questions, feel free to call or email me. Otherwise, I will see you on the river.

Our next casting class will take place Saturday, October 11th from 9:00 to 11:00 AM at Steele Indian School Park. This particular class will offer specific suggestions for casting on the San Juan just in time for the club trip. We also always offer basic instruction for those just learning to cast. As always, there is no charge for the classes, and the club will supply equipment for those in need. Remember to bring a hat, eye protection, and sunscreen. For more information, contact Ron Robinson.

Our next general education class is coming up on Tuesday, October 28th. This will be a fun class on constructing elastic retainers for your tippet and fly tying spools.

AFC and the Boy Scouts will be at Biscuit Tank on Saturday, November 1st. Please contact Ben Sheridan for more information.

The Youth Fish Camp will be held at Biscuit Tank on the following Saturday, November 8th. Please contact Dennis Lockett for more information.

I am especially pleased to announce the return of our Dutch oven/casting games event at Steele Indian School Park on November 15th. There will be a $5 per person charge. Please make your payment at the October or November general meeting. This event is always a lot of fun with unbelievably good food.

Tight lines,

Gary Lashewich

MISSION STATEMENT

The Arizona Flycasters Club is a non-profit tax-exempt organization that is dedicated to encourage, support, and educate its members and the community in the sport of fly fishing, the techniques of fly fishing, and the ethics of “catch and release” which promotes the conservation of fish and their habitats. The organization’s activities also encourage friendship, enjoyment, sportsmanship, and safety.
THE ARIZONA FLYCASTERS CLUB MEETS ON THE SECOND THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT THE SUNNYSLOPE COMMUNITY CENTER (SSCC) AT 802 EAST VOGEL, PHOENIX, ARIZONA (MAP ON PAGE 8).

### October

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### November

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**October 9th General Meeting**

"Fishing the San Juan River"

*Gary Lashewich*

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**Upcoming Programs**

- November 13th: TBA
- December 11th: AFC Holiday Round Table
- January 8th: TBA
- February 12th: Chris Taylor/Fisheads of the San Juan
- March 12th: Oscar Marks/Gunnison River Fly Shop

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**Annual Banquet and Raffle Tickets On Sale Now!**

Plan ahead for a fun evening of great food, raffle prizes, and friendship. The 2015 Annual Banquet and Raffle will be held on March 1, 2015 at the Elk’s Club located at 32nd Street and Acoma in Phoenix.

Tickets will be on sale at all general meetings from October through February. Keep the tickets in mind as a great Christmas gift for family or friends. See Marti Cahoon at the general meetings.
**Education**

**Ron Robinson**  
*Education Chair*

**Casting Class: October 11th**

Our next casting class will be held at Steele Indian School Park on October 11th from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. We will be at the end of parking lot that is reached from 3rd Street and Indian School Road. October can be hot so bring water and sunscreen. As always we will offer basic instruction for those getting started. The club has rods and reels for those in need. For those going on the San Juan trip, we will offer instruction on a few different techniques that should improve your chances for success. If you have your own equipment, please bring it, and we will make sure it is balanced for your casting style.

**General Education Class: October 28th**

Our general education this month will be held on October 28th from 7:00 to 9:00 PM at the Sunnyslope Community Center. We will show you how to construct elastic retainers for your tippet and fly tying spools. You may have seen these on MidCurrent. They are easy to construct and function smoothly. The club will supply materials and instruction (provided by Bob Sickles) for you to make several different sizes.

If you have questions regarding our education classes, give Ron Robinson a call at 602.867.8820.

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**Youth Fish Camp**

**November 8th**  
**8:00 AM**

**Biscuit Tank/ AZG&F Headquarters**

If you have a child, grandchild, niece, nephew, or friend between the ages of 8 and 18 and want them to learn the art of fly fishing, the Youth Fish Camp is just for them. They will learn the basics, including an introduction to fly tying, equipment, casting, and safety, and will use the fly they tied to catch a fish. The camp will be held at Biscuit Tank at the Arizona Game and Fish Headquarters at 5000 East Carefree Highway (just west of I-17 and Carefree Highway) on Saturday, November 8th from 8:30 AM to noon. A complimentary lunch will be served at noon for participants and parents/guardians. **All parents/guardians must stay throughout the entire session.** To sign up, please see Martí Cahoon at the October general meeting or contact Dennis Lockett at dllockett@cox.net or 602.885.4075. You also can download the application at [www.azflycasters.org](http://www.azflycasters.org). Applications/sign-ups must be received no later than Saturday, November 1st.

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**Dutch Oven/ Casting Games**

**November 15th**  
**9:00 AM**

**Steele Indian School Park**

Save the date and plan on attending one of the most popular outings that AFC has presented over the years! On November 15th, Jack Hulse and Tad Adkins and crew return to impart their Dutch oven magic! For those of you who have participated in the past, you know their skills! For our newer members, let me introduce you to them. Jack and Tad spend their free time competing in some of the most prestigious chuck wagon cook-offs held in the country. Their knowledge of the art of Dutch oven cooking is unsurpassed! The fun part is that it will be a hands-on event. Jack and Tad will involve everyone in helping cook the meal, answering all your questions, and thus demystifying and making your next venture into cooking in a Dutch oven a success!

Now if that’s not enough, Ron Robinson and his crew will be setting up games that will challenge your casting skills! If you are new to fly casting, this is a great opportunity to improve your skills! If you consider yourself a seasoned caster, this is an opportunity to be humbled by the challenges Ron’s games present, all the while improving your casting skills as well!

This is a whole family event that will held at Steele Indian School Park from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The cost is $5 per person. You will be able to sign up at the October and November meetings. This is the best deal in town to learn hands-on Dutch oven cooking, improve your casting/fishing skills, and enjoy a good meal that you helped prepare! More information will be available at the October general meeting. Don’t miss out! Be sure to sign up! If you cannot make the October meeting, please contact Roger or Martí Cahoon at 480.219.8747 or rgcahoon@cox.net.
You were challenged to tie flies to be raffled at our October general meeting, before our San Juan trip. Many of you have already donated—thank you! We’ve got a great start for our raffle. For the rest of you fly tiers, the challenge still stands: Pick your favorite patterns—nymphs, midges, dry flies, streamers, terrestrials, whatever works on the San Juan. Tie in packages of six. Bring the flies in for donation at the October general meeting. Showcase your talents and share your favorite patterns and deadly secrets to help equip our members for the big trip this month. I’ll have extra cups to hold the tickets.

Thank you to those who made donations in September:

Gary Lashewich - 6 dozen San Juan flies
Connie Richards - 2 dozen hare’s ear flies
Jim Schultz - 8 of his famous caterpillar flies
Richard Nowicki - 12 assorted flies
Jim Rondoni - 3 boxes of a dozen flies each
Jerry Hobbs - Assorted fly tying materials
Kent Berchin-Miller - Seat swivel
Bernie Blakley - Box of miscellaneous merchandise

This will be my first club trip to the San Juan. I’m looking forward to sharing time with friends, enjoying the cool weather, and getting some time on the water. I can’t wait to break out the pontoon and float the river - the scenery is spectacular as is the fishing.

Hope to see you at the next meeting and on the water in October.

Brad #2
My first cast was about 40 feet upstream, and I used a large loop to avoid tangling my set-up. The two #4 shot and rather large indicator on the 9-foot, 4X leader, with an extra foot of 4X to the leech, and another two feet of 5X to the RS2, required some practice to get consistent loops. I let this set-up drift towards me in a “dead drift” manner. For years I had been working on this technique, and it usually worked well. I began breaking the “dead drift” rule, and when the float had gone about five seconds, I gave the indicator a little “twitch.” I waited for another five seconds and gave another twitch. The indicator went shooting under the surface, and I was fast on to a fat rainbow. The fish took the leech, and after two more casts, I caught another fat rainbow, but this time on the RS2. On the day, I took about two dozen trout from the boat launch area on the San Juan River using this rig. It is now my “go to” set-up for fishing the deep, slow water below the Texas Hole.

You often hear people talk about “stripping” a leech pattern. That implies a rather constant movement of the fly without using an indicator. I fish that way, and it does work, but the “twitch” is done using an indicator, and is an intermittent, subtle movement. Bear Goode, retired fishing guide, likes to make a slow pulling motion rather than a “twitch.” When fishing from a boat the pulling motion may be the best method, but I find that the “twitch” works better for me when I am wading the San Juan.

I use the dubbed, bunny-type leech that we teach in our intermediate fly tying class. The fly shops at the San Juan offer a similar leech. Leech patterns have a great life-like movement when “twitched” in slower water. The color selection can make a big difference, but I usually have success with either a black, gray, or brown/gray fleck (jackrabbit - my favorite). Most often I use either a #8 or #10. What really surprises me is how well the trailer fly works. The RS2 (gray or chocolate), KF Flasher (black or chocolate), and other foam-wing emergers all perform well.

We are very proud to announce that Ron Robinson has received the IFFF’s Eastern Rocky Mountain Council 2014 “Award of Excellence” for his many, many, many years of teaching, leading, and supporting fly fishing communities. The award was presented to Ron at the AFC general meeting in August.

We are updating our logo and will offer our already-in-stock merchandise at half price. We have three different styles of hats, t-shirts (some sizes limited), two hoodies (medium and large), and two fleece vests (large). The items will be available at the October general meeting. Stop by the merchandise table and take a look!
Volunteers Needed For AFC Board Positions!

We have board positions to fill: Secretary and Merchandise Chair. If you are interested in a position or just lending a hand, please contact Gary Lashewich or any board member. Here is the link to the director's manual. Take a look at the duties and I'm sure you will be able to handle the job:


This is a wonderful opportunity to help the club that has helped so many! We really need your help!

Fenwick Rod Raffle

We’re still selling squares at $5 each (100 squares total) for a beautiful Fenwick, 7-1/2 foot, 6-weight, fiberglass rod with reel donated by a member of the Community of Grace Lutheran Church in Peoria!

We’re about 30% full so there is plenty of time to purchase your squares. As soon as the board is filled, we will have a drawing, and one lucky person will win the rod and reel! All proceeds will support the Steven Lockett Memorial Youth Fish Camp.
Arizona Flycasters Club meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the second Thursday of every month at the Sunnyslope Community Center. The Annual Banquet and Raffle is held in February. Watch for further details.

The Arizona Flycasters Club newsletter is published by the Arizona Flycasters Club and is distributed to its members and advertisers. Opinions expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily those of the club. Advertisements are placed as a means of conveying the message of the advertisers. The Arizona Flycasters Club does not necessarily endorse the advertiser’s products or services.

Be an active member and volunteer for a committee. Please consider volunteering for all those which interest you:

- Membership
- Conservation
- Outings
- Programs
- Public Relations
- Education
- Youth Activities
- Publications

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Next Meeting:

“Fishing The San Juan River”

Gary Lashewich

Thursday
October 9, 2014
7:00 PM

This space reserved for your name and address.