



# NEWSLETTER

*wmflyfishingclub.com*

*Established 1996*

*P.O. Box 2187, Pinetop, AZ 85935*

*June 2024*

## 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"—Secretary's Column:*

This season has started with a huge loss for our club in the passing of our president, Dawn Hewitt. She had a wonderful Celebration of Life and a suggestion was made for any memorial money (and donations) be put towards a light at the dock at Show Low Lake.

After our board meeting, it was decided to get input from our members as to where we want to go from here. A very good discussion was held at our monthly meeting and Jon Potts sent out a summary.

So far the website is being updated, this newsletter is going out, the newspaper has a blurb on a regular basis and a flyer has been created and is being circulated all over the mountain. Jon P. has put up a page on Facebook. The nature center included our blurb from last month again this month.

All new members were called by our membership chair, Peggy Sherman, Mike Styvaert is meeting with Aimee from the Maverick, Ted Langford is talking to Sportsman about us setting up a fly tying class in the store. Our next meeting we will have sign up sheets for classes in fly tying, rod building, and casting. We will have demonstrations and more discussions on how to build up more young people in our club.

Jon Potts will set up a fly fishing outing sometime during the week following our monthly meeting.

We are still working on speakers for the coming months. Any ideas?

Always waiting for the big tug on the line.

Kitty Wiemelt, Secretary

## **Spring Fly Fishing in the White Mountains , Bob Bowers**

Spring Fly Fishing in the White Mountains has been very good this year. From Show Lake to the high Mountain Lakes like Big Lake. Fly fishermen have been catching larger hold-overs and bigger Rainbow trout and Tiger trout. Big Lake is producing lots of good size Rainbows and some smaller Cutthroat Trout. Since Game and Fish have been stocking larger fish it has improved fishing in the White Mountains. Attend our June club meeting at the Nature center and hear a fish tails fishing report from our own members. See you there



## Big Lake— per Orvis reporting

### Techniques & Tips *as of 5/17/24*

There are 2 ways most anglers fish Big Lake: nymphs under an indicator, and stripping leeches on an intermediate or full sinking line. If your looking to catch cutthroat, the most popular area is railRoad Cove, but we tend to find them anywhere near a drop off or the points of the coves.

### 5-Day Outlook *as of 5/17/24*

If you take the float tube, take an indicator and set a balanced leech a foot above the depth! Intermediate AND and sinking line would be recommended if fishing a little deeper, black woolly buggers and olive woolly buggers. Some Callibaetis hatches in the late afternoon! Wade fishing has been decent in the coves stripping buggers with some people having luck with some awesome afternoon hatches!

### Orvis Phoenix 's Recommended Fly Patterns

"Must-have" fly fishing patterns in descending order of importance:

late afternoon! Wade fishing has been decent in the coves stripping buggers with some people having luck with some awesome afternoon hatches!

NAME:	COLORS:	SIZE(S):
Woolly Buzzer	Black,Olive,White	4-12
Bead Head Brassie™	N/A	16-20
Living Damsel	Olive	12
Bead Body Scud	Olive	14
Chironimids (Ice Cream Cone)	Black, Red	14-20
Balanced Leeches	Black,Olive	8-12
TH Zebra Midge	Black, Red	16-20
Zug Bug	Black	10-16



Scott Dennis/Gary Miller-Rogue

**JUNE MEETING on Wednesday, June 19th**

**at Nature Center 435 E. Woodland Lakeside, AZ**

**Raffle and social—5:30 p.m. Meeting—6:00 p.m.**

**Rod Building, fly tying demonstrations—discussions on where to next?**

## Casting for Recovery and WMFFC

Casting for Recovery (CfR) is a national organization (501C3) providing women with Breast Cancer an opportunity to experience a healing retreat in nature and fly-fishing. Every year CfR Arizona offers a May Retreat in our White Mountains. Women submit an application and 14 women are chosen through a lottery system. WMFFC has participated in this CfR retreat for over 25 years. Our club has sponsored meals which are catered by a selected White Mountain Restaurant or Caterer. Club members tie flies and provide a box of flies for each woman. Some of our members participate as River/Pond Guides: partnered with a woman on the final day to guide her in catching her first fish on a fly. Our late President Dawn Hewitt has championed our Club's participation with CfR for many years, I was a nurse at retreats and Kitty Wiemelt led the program for 10 years.

On May 12, 2024, the annual Arizona CfR was held at the X-Diamond Ranch in Eagar. The weather was beautiful. The Little Colorado River was running too high to safely fish so the ponds on X-Diamond and South Fork were fished. It was thrilling to hear and feel the joys when each woman caught their first fish on a fly. All 14 women caught a fish that day and one woman caught 5 !!! I participated as a guide as I did in the past but this May was different.....Dawn was sadly missed. Her Spirit was definitely present: "Fish On Everyone" Fran Steir



## *2023-24 WMFFC Board Members*

<b>President:</b>	VACANT	
<b>Past President:</b>	Barry Curseaden	(623) 398-5242
<b>Vice President:</b>	Gary Hall	(480) 510-6362
<b>Secretary:</b>	Kitty Wiemelt	(480) 329-6996
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Marge Dennis	(928) 358-1901
<b>Board Member at Large:</b>	John Potts	(480)766-8020
<b>Board Member at Large:</b>	Gary Miller	(602)478-0883
<b>Board Member at Large:</b>	Marcie Greenberg	(480) 993-4623
<b>Membership Chairman:</b>	Peggy Sherman	(480) 203-6414
<b>Conservation and Community Projects Chairman:</b>	VACANT	
<b>Education Chairman:</b>	Gary Miller	(602) 478-0883
<b>Newsletter Chairman:</b>	Kitty Wiemelt	(480) 329-6996
<b>Outings Chairman:</b>	John Potts	(480)766-8020
<b>IFFF Representative:</b>	Gary Hall	(480) 510-7381
<b>AZG&amp;F Liaison &amp; Website Coordinator</b>	Marcie Greenberg	(480) 993-4623

It is time to start thinking about a banquet this summer. Funds are getting a bit low so we need a big influx to boost our treasury. The last banquet we had was in 2023 and folks are biting at the bit to be able to celebrate our club and possibly take home some great treasures.

The committee will be meeting shortly many are still in the valley or Tucson. If you would like to volunteer to help the committee please reach out to us. We will need a lot of help seeking contributions of items. We also would like to encourage you, our members, to contribute any of you excess rods, reels, flies, etc.

This year we want to encourage our fishing ladies, wives and partners to create some exciting and interesting gift baskets. Creativity will make this a fun addition.

**Here are few pictures from the 2023 Banquet**

