



NEWSLETTER

wmflyfishingclub.com-flyfishingwmclub.com

Established 1996

P.O. Box 2187, Pinetop, AZ 85935

September 2024

“Golden Dorado-Adventure in Argentina”

October speaker Joe Staller is on the board of the White Mountain Lakes Foundation and a member of DFC. He is known by many and has fished the White Mountains for several years. Recently he has branched out to more exotic places, however is on deck for answering many of your questions locally.



Joe Staller is an enthusiastic amateur fly fisherman who loves all fish that will grab a fly! He enjoys fishing across the state of Arizona, including sunfish and bass in the local reservoirs, striped bass and smallmouth in the Colorado river reservoirs, grass carp in the canals and local ponds, and trout on the Mogollon Rim and in the White Mountains. Further afield, he has branched out by doing multiple self guided float trips on remote Alaska rivers, kick boat trips to Rocky Point, Mexico, and annual trips to Colorado, Wyoming and Montana. Since retiring in 2020, he has been busy spending his children's inheritance by seeking exotic species like marlin, dorado, tuna and roosterfish in Mexico, peacock bass in Brazil, and golden dorado in Argentina.

Joe has also been a long term member of the Desert Fly Casters in Phoenix. He has variously held the roles of president, vice-president, and programs, and is currently in charge of outings for the club. He is also a long term member of the White Mountains Lake Foundation (WMLF) which has the mission to improve the fishing in the White Mountains. He is a WMLF board member who is responsible for membership activities.

OCTOBER MEETING-Wednesday, Oct. 16th

at Nature Center 435 E. Woodland Lakeside, AZ. Raffle and social—5:30 p.m.
Meeting—6:00 p.m.

SPECIAL FUND RAISER: fifty-two cards \$5.00 a card. New fundraiser will be on a brand new rod and reel. Rod donated by Rick Buchanan and reel donated by Jon Wallace. Thank you Rick and Jon

The last two months we **raised \$260** for the club with the three fish from Bob Sorson. Thank you Bob.

Thank you to all who have donated used items for the monthly raffle, it really helps. **WMFF will be continuing throughout the winter.**



“Tight Lines- President’s column

Here we go into October and wishing “Safe Journeys” to our migrating members for the Winter months.

Your Board of Directors met in person this Month with several ideas for enhancing the club in 2025. We will be presenting ideas and events for the memberships input and comments, and your participation to ensure the success of our programs.

I look forward to continuing holding meetings throughout the Winter, with raffles, speakers, and specific topic meetings.

If you have updated contact information, please let us know so we can keep you informed of the club’s activities and events.

We are looking into purchasing baseball type hats, T-shirts and patches with the club logo.

Also your board is in the process of reviewing the club bylaws for updates and revisions, one which will change the membership due date from the current date to a January to December membership year, which entails a change in the bylaws and all club advertising literature.

Mike Whitney, President

Interesting facts on Fly Fishing in America-

- ⇒ **The Catskills Mountains in New York are considered the birplace of American fly fishing**
- ⇒ **Theodore Gordon in the 1860s “Father of American Dry Fly Fishing”**
- ⇒ **1920s Fly fishing peaked in popularity in the Midwest, particularly in the spring creeks of Wisconsin**
- ⇒ **Number participating in fly fishing in the U.S. grew from 5.5 million in 2010 to 7.8 million in 2020**
- ⇒ **Native Americans also caught fish by fly-fishing with deer-hair flies according to William Bartram from 1739-1823**
- ⇒ **Growing popularity in certain areas—Saltwater fly fishing is growing and Montana is a favorite spot to fly fish. The pandemic led to more people trying fly fishing.**
- ⇒ **Caddis are coming off in March on the White River of Arkansas**
- ⇒ **Want a challenge? Try the Putah Creek in Yolo County in California up by San Francisco**

Kitty Wiemelt

Trip to Penquitch Lake

My wife and I got back from an RV trip with some friends from AFC. Our first stop was Panquitch Lake in Utah. We rented a pontoon boat and went out on a ½ day trip. We hooked the wife's spinning rods with night crawlers and tossed them out. (With the tutelage from Gary Miller, I built 2 spinning rods for this trip). In 5 minutes, both were hooked up. This was the first fish my wife has caught in many years. We landed them and kept fishing. The ladies out fished both of us. The fish were from 16" to 22". Between the 4 of us, we caught 8 fish.

The wind picked and we decided to head into the dock. My friend started the engine, and before I could get to the stringer, he put the engine in gear....bang !!!! the motor cut the stringer and the fish were gone. I pulled up the rope and had one hook attached....but no fish. We did get pictures of the wife's fish. We all had a good time and want to back soon. Jon Wallace



“ Always great to get women into the sport we all love—

2023-24 WMFFC Board Members

President:	Mike Whitney	(541-390-5389
Past President:	Barry Curseaden	(623) 398-5242
Vice President:	Gary Hall	(480) 510-6362
Secretary:	Kitty Wiemelt	(480) 329-6996
Treasurer:	Marcie Greenberg/Marge Dennis	(928) 358-1901
Board Member at Large:	John Potts	(480)766-8020
Board Member at Large:	Gary Miller	(602)478-0883
Board Member at Large:	Marcie Greenberg	(480) 993-4623
Membership Chairman	Peggy Sherman-Margie Dennis	(480) 203-6414
Conservation and Community Projects		
Chairman:	VACANT	
Education Chairman:	Gary Miller	(602) 478-0883
Newsletter Chairman/Website:	Kitty Wiemelt	(480) 329-6996
Outings Chairman:	John Potts	(480)766-8020
IFFF Representative:	Gary Hall	(480) 510-7381
AZG&F Liaison & Website Coordinator	Marcie Greenberg	(480) 993-4623

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.

OCTOBER OUTING

BECKER DAYS-SUPPORT White Mountain Lakes Foundation

OCTOBER 19TH—BECKER LAKE

Fishing the Kootenai River in Troy/Libby Montana

After three days of driving, we arrived in Troy, Montana-60 miles from Canada and 30 miles from Idaho. We spent the week with an awesome guide, Kelly Palmer from the KRO Outfitters on the Kootenai River. First off he told us the fish weren't huge, but all wild and great fighters. We discovered that the very first day – biggest fish caught was 17" - Rainbow, Cutthroat, Cutbow, and Whitefish. Oh yes, only one protected specie and Gerry was lucky enough to catch one- the revered Bull Trout. Our guide said only three had been caught the whole season and his was one. Beautiful, but protected.

Other seasons, other times may find bigger fish in the Kootenai, but we had a great time just catching something that so wanted off. Even the "pickles" (smaller fish) were fun because they fought so hard.

The area in Montana was absolutely gorgeous country. Stayed in a new little cabin back away from everyone. They also have a group cabin and everyone has to cook or go out to eat. Our cabin's view was spectacular, mountains, trees, river – all out our front door. (Pictures below). We saw lots of turkey, deer and there was even a moose sighting, but alas not by us. Kitty & Gerry Wiemelt



Bull Trout - Kootenai R., MT



Full Moon over the Mts



Out our cabin door