

# Arizona Flycasters Club

## R E E L L I N E S

Established 1963

We Support Catch and Release

February 2006



**Brian Mazoyer**  
Club President  
623.566.7946

**Bill Vance**  
Vice President  
602.866.2317

**Tom Herman**  
Secretary  
602.862.9653

**Darlene Benford**  
Treasurer  
602.938.2145



Next Meeting:  
**Regional  
Conservation  
Projects**  
with  
**Dick Brown**  
Thursday,  
February 9th  
7:00 PM

### Prez Sez

**Brian Mazoyer** Mazbrian@cox.net

For those of you I have not met, let me introduce myself: my name is Brian Mazoyer and I am your club's new president. I have been a member of this club for a little over 5 years, and I joined because I wanted to learn more about our sport of fly-fishing. During the years I have been with this club, I have learned a great deal from many different members. I have also tried to give back to help other members, new and old, which leads me to my point; this club is about learning and giving back. I feel it is important for a club's members to be active in both teaching and learning. So, here is what I would like you to do: attend one more activity than you did last year, go to one more class than you did last year (better yet help to teach one), and fish with someone you haven't fished with before. I think if you try to do this we can have a club that is even more active (if you can believe that's possible!)

I want to introduce two new board members for this year:

Larry Kamins - Membership

Roger Cahoon - Outings

Thanks guys for stepping forward to help out!!

Speaking of an active club, we have many activities coming up in the next couple of months. Fly tying will be going on during the month of February, as is the outing to **Dead Horse State Park**. At the next meeting we will be taking sign-ups for the **International Sportsmen's Show** that will be coming in March. At the Sportsmen's Show (at the Arizona State Fair grounds) we will have a booth to showcase our club and all of the different activities we do.

Don't forget the **Annual Awards Banquet and Raffle** is set for February 19<sup>th</sup> at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Your last chance to get tickets for this great event to honor all the members who have made contributions throughout the year will be at this month's general meeting. Remember it's not too late to bring in something for the raffle, some of the best items have been those donated by club members. Tickets are only \$35.00 each and will be available from any board member, so get one because it will be a great evening. While I am on the subject of awards and honors, I want to thank **Doug Benford** for all of the hard work and dedication he has given this club over the past two years as your President.

Finally, as your new President I want you to remember this is **your** club and if you have suggestions for activities please talk to me or any board member. I look forward to meeting more members this year and better yet, fishing with you on a lake or stream.

Dick Brown, Conservation Committee Chairman for Northern Arizona Flycasters and VP of Conservation for the Eastern Rocky Mountain Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers, will present a program on club and council improvement projects and a short presentation of a recent fishing trip to Queen Charlotte's Island, British Columbia. If you would like to know what is going on in the way of conservation projects to help support and maintain this wonderful sport (addiction), please plan to attend the February meeting. You will gain some knowledge as well as being entertained!

-Nancy Vance

**Upcoming  
Three Month  
Calendar**

<b>February</b>	6th	Monday	Basic Fly Tying	
	8th	Wednesday	Basic Fly Tying	
	9th	Thursday	General Meeting	
	11-12	Sat - Sun	Deadhorse Ranch Outing	
	13th	Monday	Basic Fly Tying	
	15th	Wednesday	Basic Fly Tying	
	<b>19th</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Annual Banquet</b>	
	21st	Tuesday	Basic Fly Tying	
	22nd	Wednesday	Basic Fly Tying	
	28th	Tuesday	Basic Fly Tying	
	<b>March</b>	1st	Wednesday	Rod Building
		4th	Saturday	Dutch Oven Cooking
		9th	Thursday	General Meeting
		10-12	Fri - Sun	ISE Sportsmen's Expo
		21+22	Tue + Wed	Rod Building
		25-26	Sat - Sun	Seneca Lake Outing
		28+29	Tue + Wed	Rod Building
	<b>April</b>	1st	Saturday	Casting Clinic
		5th	Wednesday	Advanced Net Building
	11th	Tuesday	Intermediate Fly Tying	
	12th	Wednesday	Advanced Net Buildnig	
	13th	Thursday	General Meeting	
	19th	Wednesday	Advanced Net Building	
	22-23	Sat - Sun	Seneca Lake Outing	
	25th	Tuesday	Intermediate Fly Tying	
	26th	Wednesday	Advanced Net Building	

**Sportsmen's  
Show**

*Doug Benford*

The ISE Sportsmen's Expo will be held March 10-12, 2006 at the Arizona State Fairgrounds. As in the past, Arizona Flycasters will have a booth at the show. We will be taking sign-ups at the February meeting for volunteers to staff our booth. The dates and times are as follows: Friday March 10, 12-7pm, Saturday March 11, 10am-7pm, Sunday March 12, 10am-5pm.

**Welcome New  
Members!**

Bill Collins  
Phoenix

Cliff Eldredge  
Scottsdale

Tom McMahon  
Peoria

Dean & Judy Sheeley  
Phoenix



Keith Swalley  
Glendale

Jack & Joy Tuber  
Paradise Valley

Michael Wawro  
Glendale

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# Annual Banquet & Raffle

February 19th

4:00 PM

Tickets Are Available At This Month's Meeting

Oh my!!! Words alone can't describe what is in store for you when you attend the AFC Annual Raffle at the Annual Banquet. Let me try...

How about over 100 raffle items? How about the chance to go home with a fishing trip to Alaska, Oregon, Lee's Ferry, the San Juan River, or Haigler Creek in Arizona?

How about books on fly fishing, magazine subscriptions, fly lines, reels, rods, vests, flies and fly boxes, fly fishing gadgets, fly tying materials and supplies, hand made items of all kinds, gift certificates, Sun's tickets, jewelry and much, much more?

I guess some words *can* describe what you can look forward to at the Annual Raffle.

Hope to see you there, and I hope to be calling your name and delivering one (or more) of these fantastic raffle prizes to your table.

-Bob Rudzinski

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**This  
Month's  
Outing:  
Dead Horse  
Ranch**  
February 11-12

*Roger Cahoon*

Try out your gear at the first outing of the year! It will all happen February 11-12 at Dead Horse State Park in Cottonwood, Arizona. This should be a fun weekend of fishing, hiking and bird watching. The two lower ponds produce some great shore fishing or maybe you would like to try your moving water skills on the river located next to the park, either way it promises to be fun.

To reach [Dead Horse State Park](#) you will need to take I-17 north to Camp Verde, exit at Highway 260 and go west to Cottonwood turn left onto Highway 89A and go about one and one half miles. Watch for the Dead Horse State Park signs, where you will turn right into the park. Check in at the park entrance. There is a \$12 per night fee or if you're only coming up for the day the fee is \$6 per day. Let the Park Ranger know you are with AFC and they will direct you to the group campground.

Come join the club for a fun filled family weekend and don't forget the potluck at 3:00 PM.! Look forward to seeing everyone there.

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**Mentors  
Wanted**

*Ron Rosenlof*

Saturday, February 11th, the Dead Horse State Park outing will be the first fly fishing merit badge training session in 2006 for AFC. Any member who is attending the outing and would be interested in helping some young people learn how to tie some flies and cast a fly with a fly rod, your help would be greatly appreciated. Ten to 12 eager boy scouts should be there for us to pass on some knowledge to so that they could earn their "Fly Fishing" Merit Badge.

Also, if you are interested in becoming a fly fishing merit badge counselor for 2006 for the Boy Scouts, contact Ron Rosenlof at 623-979-2002 or e-mail at [rtrosenlof@netzero.com](mailto:rtrosenlof@netzero.com).

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**Fishing  
Report:  
Dead Horse  
Ranch**

*Dennis Gilbert*

Weeds around the perimeter continue to expand and limit access points. Cottonwoods planted around the casting areas will also change the usage. Quick retrieve of patterns 3 feet to 6 feet deep was effective from the handicap dock left of the boat launch. A lot of moss is growing at the spillway resulting in longer casts being necessary. There's been heavy stocking in the lagoons as well as the river since December.

The biggest surprise this trip is the river. Below and 100 yards west of the unused upper lagoon is a riffle that yields a nice foam line on the far side where expectant trout lay waiting for a meal. A midge dropper at 18 inches below an indicator resulted in lots of action at 10:30 to 11:30 am. I did not fish the Tuzigoot bridge area but it looked excellent and more conducive to wading because of the rocky bottom and open banks. That area has also received numerous stockings.

Hooray for this year's river. It should be very productive for the club following the drought of '04 and the flood of '05 which has limited Verde River fishing. Good Luck.

*Do you have a fishing report you'd like to share? [Reel Lines](#) welcomes your submissions!*

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**Basic Fly Tying**

*Bill Vance*

February first, Arizona Flycasters Club will kick off our 2006 basic fly tying classes. Three new flies will be featured along with four from previous classes. We will be tying the semi-seal leech, wooly bugger, a terrestrial (beetle or hopper), A P emerger, peacock callibaetis, RS2, a San Juan fly and end with a parachute adams.

All members are encouraged to attend even those who have been active in previous classes. The dates are Feb 1 (which will be our introduction to materials and equipment), followed by classes on Feb 6, 8, 13, 15, 21, 22, and 28.

AFC will furnish all materials and equipment and each class will start at 7pm at the Sunnyslope Community Center. Mark your calendars now to attend these exciting new tying classes.

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**Rod Construction** - March 1, 21,22, 28 & 29

**Education  
Committee  
News**

*Ron Robinson*

robinsonrs@cox.net

All our rod construction will be done at the Sunnyslope Community Center from 7 - 9 PM. There is no charge for members, however, the members will need to purchase all the rod components they intend to use. Our first night will be a discussion of what might be an appropriate rod for you to build and where to get the components. Our next class is 20 nights later and this is designed to give you enough time to order and receive your components.

Actual construction begins on March 21. Most students have their rods ready for applying the finish to the wrappings by the end of the third construction night. However, we have scheduled a fourth night to assure completion. We have moved this years class later into the year to insure warmer temperatures when applying the finish. If you have any questions give Ron Robinson a call at 602.867.8820.

**Coming Events:**

Fly line and leaders made simple, How to catch more carp, Bass fishing with a fly, Alaska flies for beginners, Tying San Juan flies, Tying White Mountain flies, Equipment maintenance, and much more.

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**Conservation  
News**

*Dick Kennedy*

2006 will be another year with a variety of conservation issues. First off, weather will be a primary factor. Moisture is the first real concern. Small streams will be starved and forest closures can be expected at a very early date unless moisture arrives to ward off the threat of fires. If moisture does not arrive in abundance, days to work in the forests may be few and only early in the season and post monsoon.

This year much work will need to be done in the Canyon Creek area helping with the riparian habitat project and attacking the bull thistle. Crawfish will also be a constant problem and trapping will be encouraged. We will need to keep track of trapping efforts conducted during the course of the year.

The Apache and Gila trout projects will also be in need of your efforts. Stay in touch and watch for dates and times where your help can make a difference.

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**Breakfast  
Cast**

Last month's Breakfast Cast was one powerful combination of food and fun.

There was a good crowd of folks attending, from casting pros to those brand new to the sport. After breakfast everyone seemed to find their niche either casting on the pond or running the casting course set up on the grass. At least one of our members even caught a nice fish, how can you beat that?

Thanks to all the volunteers who kept us fed through the early morning chill with hotcakes, eggs, biscuits and gravy, and all the fixins.

Another big thank you to Ted Bounds and Larry Allen who set up the casting course. It tested the mettle of even our most experienced casters. Have you ever thrown a fly through a hula hoop 5' above the ground some 30' away? Or cast to a target behind a tree? Their enthusiasm and teaching skills not only made for a good time, but left all of us with some new-found confidence and skills to work on. Great job!

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**2006 Club  
Calendar**

Members who attended last month's events received very cool color-coded 2006 AFC Club Calendars, thanks to the creativity of Darlene Benford. They flew out faster than the hotcakes at the breakfast, but if you missed out you just might find one at this month's meeting.

On the reverse side you'll find board members' contact info so you need never feel out of touch. Just be sure to check out our website or this newsletter for current email addresses since we've already had a few changes.

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**2006  
AFC  
Board  
of Directors**

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Brian Mazoyer	..... <i>President</i>	..... 623.566.7946	..... <a href="mailto:mazbrian@cox.net">mazbrian@cox.net</a>
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Bob Day	..... <i>Sunshine / Welcome Table</i>	..... 602.274.6983	..... <a href="mailto:fishandgab@cox.net">fishandgab@cox.net</a>
Paul Finell	..... <i>Membership Badges/Flybook</i>	..... 480.998.7024	..... <a href="mailto:pfinell@cox.net">pfinell@cox.net</a>
Charley Greene	..... <i>Sunshine / Welcome Table</i>	..... 602.263.5084	..... <a href="mailto:charleygreene@yahoo.com">charleygreene@yahoo.com</a>
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Larry Kamins	..... <i>Membership Chair</i>	..... 480.664.1853	..... <a href="mailto:lbkamins@cox.net">lbkamins@cox.net</a>
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Marian Tallon	..... <i>Newsletter</i>	..... 602.956.4345	..... <a href="mailto:matallon@deru.com">matallon@deru.com</a>
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Donna Walkuski	..... <i>Newsletter</i>	..... 602.956.4878	..... <a href="mailto:dtw@deru.com">dtw@deru.com</a>

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**Beginner's  
Fly Tying Tools**

As a general rule, quality tools will allow you to learn faster and tie better flies. As such, you should strive to obtain the best tools your budget will allow. This does not mean that tools must be a costly investment. Your local fly shop owner can be a source of quality tools and materials. As you gain experience, retail catalogs also can be an excellent source. The tools needed to begin fly tying are a **vise, scissors, bobbin, bobbin threader, bodkin, hackle pliers, hair stacker, whip finisher, and hackle gauge.**

**THE VISE:** This is your single most important purchase. This tool holds the hook securely while the fly is being constructed. There are many vises with prices ranging from \$35 to several hundred dollars. Some vises are more versatile than others and you need to consider the type of mount (base). A C-clamp mount is usually less expensive and often gives you more control in height while a pedestal mount may cost more but is more flexible for different types of tables or counters.

The way the hook is secured in the vise also is a consideration. There are stationary and rotary vises. A rotary vise is one that allows the jaws (and fly) to be turned 360 degrees while you are constructing the fly. This feature can be used to your advantage, but is not an absolute necessity.

**SCISSORS:** After a vise, scissors are probably the next most important fly tying tool. Considerations when making your purchase include the quality of the blade, the size of the finger holes and the fineness of the point. Finger holes need to be large enough to facilitate easy manipulation of the scissors and the blade **MUST** be of high enough quality to maintain a good edge. Without a fine point, you cannot get close enough to the body of the fly to cut material. No matter which scissors you select, just be sure they are sharp and have fine points.

**BOBBIN:** Thread is used in the construction of the fly and a bobbin holds a spool of thread as it is applied to the fly. This rather inexpensive item consists of a stainless steel tube that is flared at the end, and heavy spring steel material with beads on the end to hold the spool of thread. Considerations include the length of the tube, it's diameter, and whether it includes a ceramic tip. Some feel that a longer tube is an advantage because it allows more leverage when wrapping the thread and more control in placement of the thread. Either a standard or long length bobbin will function perfectly well for the beginner. Bobbins with a larger diameter are used for floss, not thread. In time thread friction may wear grooves in the flared end of the tube; a ceramic tip will prevent this tendency. A ceramic tip, however is not an absolute necessity for the beginning fly tyer.

*Adapted from the  
FFF booklet  
Introduction to fly  
tying  
(by Al Beatty & Bob  
Lay)*

*For more tips see the  
FFF website:  
[http://  
www.fedflyfishers.org/  
tool.php](http://www.fedflyfishers.org/tool.php)*

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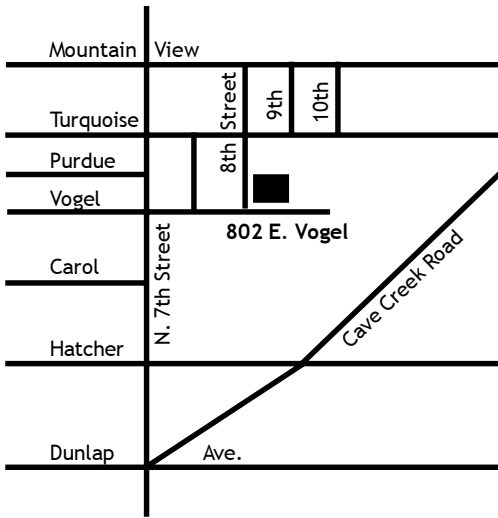
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Arizona Flycasters Club meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month at the Sunnyslope Community Center. The Annual Banquet is held in the month of February. Watch for further details.

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 AFC does not necessarily endorse the advertisers' products or services.

## Application for Annual Membership

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Annual family membership = \$30

Send check or money order to:



### Arizona Flycasters Club

P.O. Box 47357

Phoenix, AZ 85068-7357

Be an active member and volunteer for a committee.

Please indicate which committee interests you:

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership       | <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outings          | <input type="checkbox"/> Programs     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations | <input type="checkbox"/> Education    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Publications |



### Arizona Flycasters Club

P.O. Box 47357

Phoenix, AZ 85068-7357

<http://www.azflycasters.org>

**Paid Your Dues Yet?**

Next Meeting:  
**Regional  
 Conservation Projects**  
 with  
**Dick Brown**  
 Thursday,  
 February 9th  
 7:00 PM