

# Arizona Flycasters Club

## R E E L L I N E S

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January 2005



### Pres Sez

Doug Benford shscadman@yahoo.com

### Happy New Year !

I hope the Holiday Season was a great time of joy and peace in your families. I just returned from the White Mountains and everything is frozen or just about frozen. One long time resident told me that they have had more snow thus far this year than all of last winter. That is really encouraging—to have good water for our planned outings in the coming months.

The Annual Banquet and Raffle will be held, Sunday, February 20 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. This is the time to honor our club members for their accomplishments throughout the year. As I have said many times before, the members make this club operate and we need to acknowledge those members. The raffle is an integral part of the banquet. Bob Rudzinski and his account executives have been asking for donations for the past couple of months. The most sought after prizes are often those made by or donated by club members. In the previous raffles we have had oil paintings, furniture, custom rods, house painting services, and hand made nets. Please consider donating to the raffle. The proceeds from the raffle allow the club to support many of the things we do, such as: education, conservation, Casting for Recovery, monthly outings and our special trips. Tickets are now on sale. You may purchase them from any board member or at the January meeting. The ticket price is \$35.00 per person.

If you received new fishing equipment as a gift this Christmas you can be sure that AFC's education department will be ready and willing to instruct you in the safe and proper use of your equipment.

As we start a new year, I encourage each of you to become more involved in club activities. Make it a priority to attend one more outing than you did last year, attend a casting clinic, and/or sign up for fly tying, rod building or any other class that might interest you. In other words, take advantage of all that the club has to offer.

In closing, nearby lakes and streams are calling—how about calling a fishing buddy and having some fun!

Happy New Year,

Doug

### Next Meeting Flyfishing for Wild Trout in the National Parks of California

by  
**Steve Beck**  
Thursday,  
January 13th

**Doug Benford**  
Club President  
602.938.2145

**Brian Mazoyer**  
Vice President  
623.566.7946

**Sue Hawk**  
Secretary  
623.362.0019

**Ed Yanez**  
Treasurer  
623.878.2002

Member of the



### Flyfishing for Wild Trout in the National Parks of California

Steve Beck

Steve Beck, author of "Yosemite Trout Fishing Guide" and "Trout Fishing the John Muir Trail" is the featured speaker for the January 13th meeting. Yosemite, Lassen, Kings Canyon & Sequoia National Parks offer hundreds of trout-filled lakes, thousands of miles of trout streams, and the finest mountain scenery in the world. The presentation highlights the wonderful trout fishing and spectacular beauty in these world renowned parks. Steve has fly-fished the Sierra for twenty years from his nearby home in Merced (the "Gateway to Yosemite") CA, where he lives with his wife and two young children. As a freelance writer he has also written articles for national fishing magazines.

**Upcoming  
Three Month  
Calendar**

*Looks like the  
Education  
Committee's  
going to keep us  
very busy.*

<b>January</b>	1st	Saturday	New Year's Day
	10th	Monday	New Net Construction Class
	11th	Tuesday	Net Construction Class - continuing
	12th	Wednesday	Net Construction Class - continuing
	13th	Thursday	General Meeting
	18th	Tuesday	Fly Rod Construction Intro Class
	22nd	Saturday	McKellips Lake Park Outing
<b>February</b>	1st	Tuesday	Rod Construction Class - continuing
	2nd	Wednesday	Rod Construction Class - continuing
	7th	Monday	New Net Construction Class
	9th	Wednesday	Net Construction Class - continuing
	10th	Thursday	General Meeting
	11th	Friday	Net Construction Class - continuing
	15th	Tuesday	Rod Construction Class - continuing
	16th	Wednesday	Rod Construction Class - conclusion
	20th	Sunday	Annual Banquet & Raffle
	22nd	Tuesday	An Evening with Jack Dennis
	26-27	Sat - Sun	Dead Horse State Park Outing
	<b>March</b>	10th	Thursday
19th-20th		Sat - Sun	Seneca Lake Outing

**Annual  
Raffle  
Update**

It looks like we are going to have a "dynamite" Annual Raffle" again this year. You can expect a new wrinkle or two which should add some fun and excitement. You still have time to get your raffle donations to me. The January meeting would be a good time or, feel free to drop them off at my house. Call 602-980-3538 to make arrangements. Any questions about your donations give me a call.

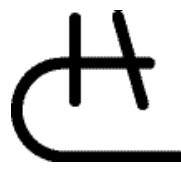
Bob Rudzinski  
Raffle Chairman  
602-980-3538



**Annual Banquet & Raffle**

This big event is coming on  
February 20th.

Tickets are available from any Board  
member, at the monthly meetings or  
at our local flyshops.



Chuck Howey

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**Be Careful  
What You Ask  
For**

*Ron Robinson*

robinsonrs@webtv.net

At our November general meeting I talked about the great success I had with the Coyote Clouser. I mentioned about the opportunities we had locally for acquiring the tails of these animals from "road kill" since the tails were the "prime" part of the animal.

Some kind member, I suspect with good intentions, put a rather abused carcass in a plastic bag on my front porch while I was away visiting family during the Thanksgiving weekend. My son-in-law who was checking my home for "deliveries" found the rather juicy and odorous animal.

Since it was late at night he told my daughter that "your dad has some rather strange friends" and he wasn't doing anything with that carcass. She called the "dead animal" pickup service of the county. They took the animal to its burial site. My daughter washed most of the remains

from my porch and called me to see if I was expecting such a "delivery". When I asked about the tail she mentioned something in a rather loud voice about where she thought I should put such a tail. I remain tailless but hopeful that the kind soul that gave me the carcass will simply leave the tail next time. I am sure glad that I didn't talk about the great dry fly tails you can make from elephant whiskers!

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**Bonus Raffle**

*Bob Rudzinski*

In conjunction with the Rod Building Classes we are having a BONUS RAFFLE at the January Meeting. In a special Raffle there will be a 9' 5wt rod blank with all the fixings (including epoxy, guides, thread) necessary to build your rod. Look for the BONUS RAFFLE at the January meeting.

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**Conservation  
News**

*Jerry Hobbs*

As advertised in a previous newsletter and mentioned at the November meeting, six AFC members ventured to Canyon Creek for a workday to combat the nasty bull thistle on Saturday, November 20.

With guidance from Patti Fenner, Noxious Weeds Control Manager of the National Forest Service, and her teenage son Eric, we battled the mighty bull thistle to a draw. Eleven bags were collected, with Mark Cockrill and Gary Stinson staying over to work again on Sunday.

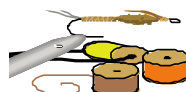
We were all weary at the end, but felt a great sense of accomplishment. The infestation is really extreme and we will need to spend a considerable amount of time this spring if we are to gain some control over these pests. If we don't do it, I'm afraid the fishing will suffer because of increased runoff from rains, but also just trying to wade through the thistles in spots will be unpleasant. They are 2-4 feet tall and very spiny.

Thanks to Chuck Howey, Ken Schubert, and Roger Cahoon, in addition to the aforementioned. Your efforts are appreciated.

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support them.*



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## Federation News

- Dario Travaini  
Eastern Rocky Mountain Council National Director

Why should you support FFF by becoming a member?

**The Mangrove Initiative:** In 2004 hurricanes decimated Florida mangroves on both coasts. Mangrove trees provide critical nursery habitat for many of our most popular game fish and much of the natural environment that protects and supports them. The FFF is leading a major effort to replant the areas that have been damaged.

**Game Fish Stature for Striped Bass:** The FFF has joined with Stripers Forever and others to make the striped bass a game fish and thus off limits to commercial fishing. FFF has supported acquisition of accurate economic and scientific information supporting this effort but it needs money for printing, dissemination and one additional study. The battle is joined and the need is now.

**Education:** For the past five years the number of fishing licenses sold in the US has decreased. If this trend continues, fish and fisheries may lose public support and our sport may wither and die. In addition to the traditional foes of pollution, heedless development, lost access, etc., we now have groups who publicly demand an end to our sport. To counter these threats the FFF has committed to major national education efforts. The Boy Scouts of America is counting on us to help 25,000 plus scouts earn their fly fishing merit badge each year. FFF is partnering with the American Fly-Fishing Trade Association to attend over 30 sporting shows across the country to promote the FFF and to teach fly fishing and fly tying. At these shows, FFF provides "take away" materials and youngsters receive a copy of the FLYFISHER, the FFF handbooks on beginning fly fishing and fly tying and a 6 month membership. This is critically important work that must be supported.

If any of this means anything to you, please consider joining. Membership applications are available at every AFC meeting held on the second Thursday of the month.

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## An Evening with Jack Dennis

*Ron Robinson*

Mark your calendars now for February 22nd. We have arranged for a special program with Jack Dennis noted author, guide and teacher. This will be at the Sunnyslope Community Center from 7 - 9 PM. Jack will share with us some of his latest innovations and discoveries that will help us all catch more fish. How can you beat that?

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I'll post this again so all will have it available for the upcoming year. Put this up on your fridge and we'll see you on the water.

## 2005 Outings Schedule

Jan 22	McKellips Park Lake
Feb 26-27	Dead Horse Park
Mar 19-20	Seneca Lake
Apr 23-24	Roper Park Lake
May 26-30	Cyclone Lake - <i>thanks Chuck Cothran</i>
Jun 25-26	Horseshoe Cienega Lake
Jul 16-17	Big Lake
Aug (TBA)	Rim Lakes - in conjunction with the Crawdad Festival
Sep 24-25	Woods Canyon Lake
Oct 15-16	Hawley Lake
Nov 5-9	San Juan River
Dec 10	Salt River

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## Education Committee News

Ron Robinson

robinsonrs@webtv.net

### Rod Construction Classes for 2005

This class is designed to teach the basics of rod construction. You will learn how to select the components needed to make a rod that fits the type of fishing you like. We will spend several nights assembling these components and creating a fine fishing rod. There is no cost for this instruction. You simply pay for what components you need to build the rod of your dreams. There is no limit to class size nor is a sign up required.

The first class will be Jan. 18 at the Sunnyslope Community Center from 7 - 9 PM. At this time we will cover component selection for the type of rod you want to build. As such, it is a good class for anyone to attend as you are not committing to build a rod. It's just a lot of information on rod construction. There will be a two week period before actual construction will begin. This gives you time to order or visit a local shop to purchase the items you need. Actual construction begins Febr. 1, 2, 15, and 16.

Many great fishing rods have been made in past years and I am sure more will be made this year. Give Ron Robinson a call at 602-867-8820 if you have any questions.

### January Outing - Saturday Jan. 22

We will have a "breakfast" outing at Yavapai Park (aka Mc Kellips Lake Park). The club will serve a free breakfast at 8 AM. This will include food, drinks, cups, plats, etc. We will use the ramada near the center of the lake on the east side (see attached map). This park is between

Roosevelt on the north, Mc Kellips on the south, Miller on the west and Hayden on the east. The suggested entrance is taking Pierce St. west off of Hayden and going to the end (parking lot).

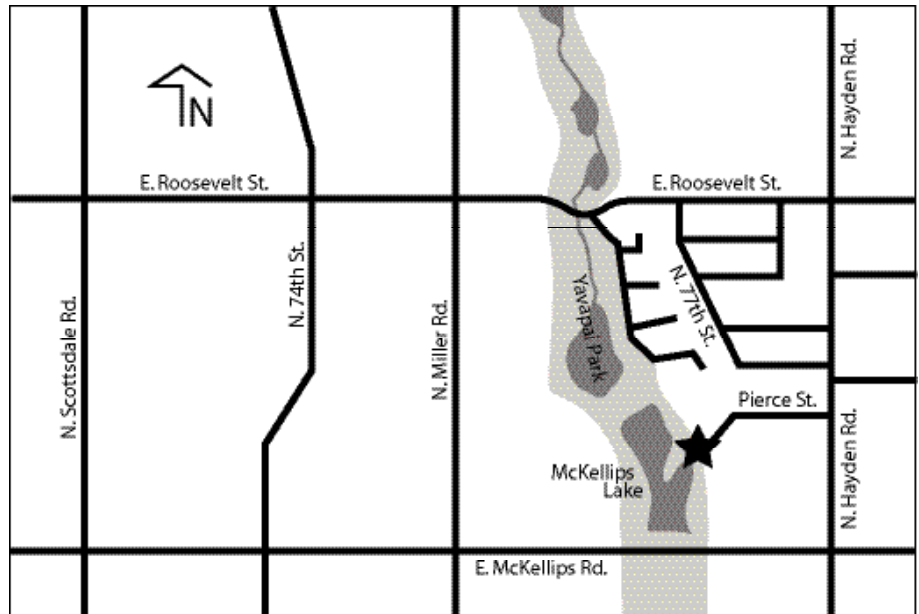
After breakfast we can fish for bass and sunfish. Small bass bugs, wet flies and streamers are the flies of choice. Ron Robinson will have a wide range of rods from 2 to 12 weight (from his personal collection) for you to try along with many different types of fly lines. This is an opportunity for you to try something you might like to add to your arsenal.

This is a family outing for all club members. This is not an urban lake so all you need is your 2005 AZ fishing license. Give Ron Robinson a call at 602-867-8820 is you have any questions.

This is a family outing for all club members. This is not an urban lake so all you need is your 2005 AZ fishing license. Give Ron Robinson a call at 602-867-8820 is you have any questions.

### Net Contruction Classes

The second session is Jan 10, 11 and 12 and those attending have been notified by email or phone. The last session will be Febr. 7, 9, and 11. Those attending this class will be notified soon. There is a \$15 charge for this class to cover the materials. The nets being made are really spectacular. A special thanks goes to Ron Rosenlof for arranging for the very fine facilities we use.



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**2004  
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Board  
of Directors**

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**Why Build  
Your Own  
Flyrod?**

*Larry Ingram  
E.C. Powell  
Flyfishers  
Newsletter*

Such a simple question generates many answers. Some answers involve logical reasons such as saving money or building the rod that meets your specific performance standard for a specific application. (I recently built a Steelhead rod for Jim Tanner. He was very specific in that he wanted a 9' 6", 6 wt. Sage XP, 4 piece to use for Steelhead.) Other answers may revolve around more abstract, philosophical, psychological, or emotional-based reasons. The reasons are many but probably identical to the feeling one gets by tying one's own flies and catching fish on them. Those new rods, with all the different looks and feels, can be an extension of your own creative expression and more importantly, catch fish. When building one's own rod, the builder will have to address many details regarding the type of fly rod to build. One rod will not serve in all situations. I work with a spin fisherman who is amazed that we can catch big fish with a fly rod. Obviously he believes that all fly rods are the same. Rods come in different lengths, weights, actions, stiffness, colors, guide sizes and reel seat types.

The questions one must ask are:

- What kind of fish and size do I want to catch (bass, trout, tarpon, stripper, etc.)?
- What type of water are you planning on fishing (small streams, big rivers, lakes, etc.)?
- What rod length do I want (2 piece for all around, 3, 4 or 5 pc for backpacking, traveling, etc.)?
- What types of flies are you going to be using (large, small, weighted, etc.)?
- How much time and money are you willing to spend on this new rod?

The final decision is completely yours. Many of the club's members have built their own rods and they are all good ones. A few basic steps will have you on your way to that special rod to use for that special occasion.

Note: Check with local fly shops as some do offer rod building classes throughout the year.

*Editor's Note: Better yet, join the rod building classes listed in the Education News in this bulletin.*

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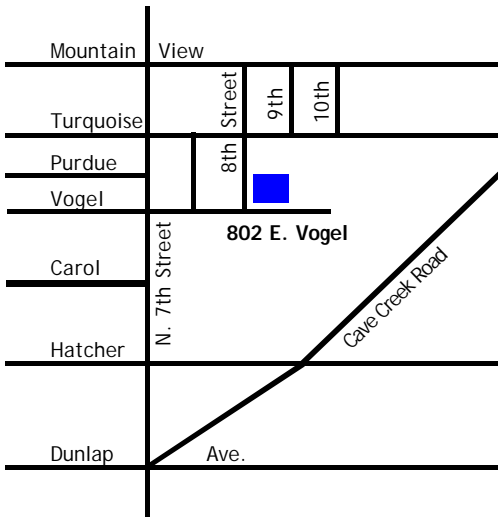
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**Arizona Flycasters Club** meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month at the Sunnyslope Community Center. The Annual Banquet is held in the month of February. Watch for further details.

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 \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Annual family membership = \$30

Send check or money order to:



### Arizona Flycasters Club

P.O. Box 47357

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Be an active member and volunteer for a committee.

Please indicate which committee interests you:

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



### Arizona Flycasters Club

P.O. Box 47357

Phoenix, AZ 85068-7357

<http://www.azflycasters.org>

This Month's Program  
**Flyfishing for Wild Trout in  
 California's National Parks**

by

**Steve Beck**

Thursday, January 13th

**Paid Your Dues Yet ?**