

# Arizona Flycasters Club

## R E E L L I N E S

Established 1963

We Support Catch and Release

September 2006



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FEDERATION OF  
FLY FISHERS



Next Meeting:

Providing for the  
Future of Our  
Fisheries

with

Linn Montgomery

Thursday,  
September 14th  
7:00 PM

### President's Riffles

Brian Mazoyer Mazbrian@cox.net

Recently I returned from the BOW (Becoming an Outdoor Woman) retreat teaching fly-fishing and fly tying up in Prescott with club members Donna Walkuski and Ron Robinson. I thought it was a great weekend with some very enthusiastic ladies asking lots of questions and eagerly wanting to learn more about the sport we love.

One of the things I think I enjoyed the most were the evenings teaching fly tying. The majority of these ladies had no expectations about how to tie a fly or even what a fly was, let alone know what it was *supposed* to look like: they were just there to have fun and spend the evening *crafting* as I referred to it. This allowed them to think "outside the box" and be more creative. Once we taught them the basic pattern they were able to take off with it, making a multitude of very creative changes and experimenting with different materials; many of which I thought were fishable and would probably catch a fish!

If you are thinking about taking the fly tying classes offered this month (and I would encourage you to do so), think about being more creative. After you have learned the basic pattern see what kind of variations you can come up with. You may surprise yourself!

As you may remember, we have talked at past meetings about changes AZGF wants to make to the Canyon Creek fishery. Specifically they want to increase fishing traffic in

*Continued on page 5*



Success at last month's BOW retreat

Arizona Flycasters is considering Northern Arizona University as the new home for the Eugene "Chick Scott" Scholarship. This scholarship will help support undergraduate students dedicated to the study of fishes, fisheries, or fish habitat, and conservation. Linn Montgomery, ichthyologist and professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at NAU will talk about NAU people and programs that deal with these topics, as well as relevant courses and opportunities available to NAU students with these interests.

Linn was introduced to fly fishing on the Convict Lake drainage of the Sierras, and during two summers before his arrival at NAU, he used a fly rod as a "scientific research tool" to capture sea-run brook trout and Atlantic salmon in the pristine boreal forests of eastern Quebec and Newfoundland. Since then his personal research has involved diving studies of tropical reef fishes, although his students have worked on Lee's Ferry trout, fish feeding and nutrition, and conservation of native fishes through control of exotic fish and crayfish.

-Nancy Vance

**Upcoming  
Three Month  
Calendar**

<b>September</b>	Mondays + Wednesdays	Fly Tying Classes	
	14th Thursday	General Meeting	
	16-17 Sat - Sun	Gila/Apache Trout Workday*	
	23-24 Sat - Sun	Woods Canyon Lake	
30	Saturday	Casting Clinic	
	<b>October</b>		
7th	Saturday	Gila/Apache Trout Workday*	
10th	Tuesday	Intermediate Fly Tying	
12th	Thursday	General Meeting	
16-18	Mon-Wed	Net Building Classes	
21-22	Sat - Sun	Hawley Lake	
<b>November</b>	6th	Monday	San Juan Pre-trip Meeting
	9th	Thursday	General Meeting
	11-15	Sat - Wed	San Juan River

\* With Old Pueblo TU - see the June issue of Reel Lines. Contact Dick Kennedy for info.

**San Juan  
Sign-Ups Start**

*Ken Steele*

The San Juan River in northwestern New Mexico offers fly fishing opportunities unlike any other outing the club offers. Signups will start at the September meeting and Dario Travaini will be there to take them. The price is \$350 on the bus and \$275 if you drive your own vehicle.

The price includes your New Mexico fishing license, accommodations at Abe's, breakfast each morning, and a place at the liar's table for the prime rib dinner the final night of the trip.

Believe it or not, it is already time to begin thinking about the Annual Banquet and Raffle. All members are invited to contribute a raffle item: home-made, hand-crafted or one that is purchased. If you are going to "make" something, it is not too early to get started. Some of the most popular items at the Annual Raffle are those made by our talented members. Contact me for ideas (Bob Rudzinski: 602-980-3538).

If you have joined the club since February and have not attended an Annual Banquet, you are in for a treat. It is also a way to contribute and pay back for all the club has given to you. Stay tuned for more information in future newsletters and at the monthly meetings.

*and more ...*

It is time to once more step up and contribute. We need your help making phone calls to fly fishing related businesses throughout the country asking for raffle items. Several members have already volunteered to help, but we need more members to be involved. The more help we get, the fewer calls each of us have to make. Give back to the club that has given so much to you. Call Bob Rudzinski 602-980-3538 if you are interested in helping.

**Annual Raffle**

*Bob Rudzinski*

**A Warm  
Welcome to our  
Newest  
Members:**

Lee E Anderson Phoenix	Colin Gregan Scottsdale
Brad Bailey Phoenix	Jerry Keck Sun City
Joel Blakley Vincennes, IN	Ken McKenna Phoenix
Harold (Edd) Cason Jr. Phoenix	Ken & Diane Ogradowski Peoria
David & Jill Forbes Scottsdale	Lewis Sorci Peoria

**Sage rods for sale:**

586-4 RPL (8' 6" 5wt.) \$150  
TXL 3710-3 (7' 10" 3wt.) \$400

**Contact:**

Dick Walton 602-943-7625 or  
602-481-6592

## Dragonflies and Damselflies

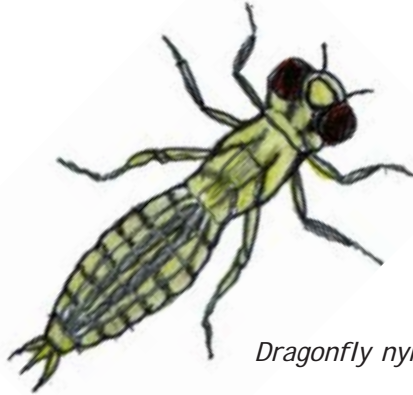
*Text and Illustrations by Jerry Hobbs*

*Fourth in a series*

My clearest and most recent memory of this group involves a dragonfly behaving in a very strange, erratic manner. It was mid-July on Nelson Reservoir near Alpine, and I soon realized the dragonfly was towing my fly line. I had either lassoed it or it had actually hit my fly in the air. This might be hard to believe, but Doug Benford was my witness. Some would say I had no proof, but do fly fishers lie?



*Damselfly nymph*



*Dragonfly nymph*

Dragonflies and damselflies are in the Order Odonata and are similar in appearance. In Arizona dragonflies are larger and stouter. Also, dragonflies hold their wings straight out, whereas damselflies fold their wings over their bodies at rest. The group engages in incomplete metamorphosis: egg, nymph, adult.

These insects have strong, biting mouthparts and are aggressive predators as nymphs as well as adults, mostly preying on other insects.

Eggs can be laid freely into the water or into the bottom substrate, or they can be laid inside water plant tissues. Here in Arizona the eggs wait through the winter and hatch out in the spring,

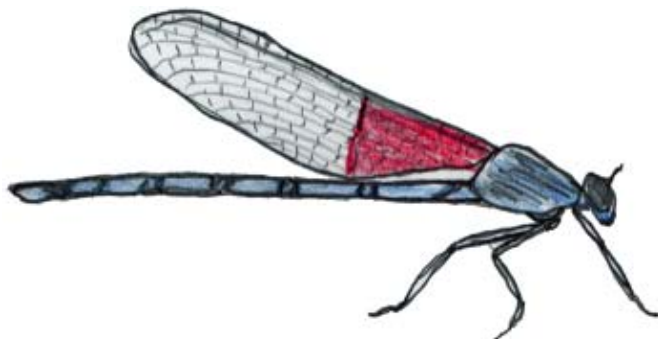
The nymphs are aquatic and are strongly carnivorous. Dragonfly nymphs walk on the bottom or use jet propulsion to move more rapidly. Damselfly nymphs swim by flexing their bodies from side to side. Generally, 12-15 molts occur through 2 summers before nymphs are ready to become adults.

Neither damsel nor dragon nymphs have tails. Damsels have 3 leaflike caudals which they use like paddles to help them move, while dragons have 3 short stubs in place of a tail (see drawings).

Most species emerge at night to avoid predation, but when it's colder they might emerge at sunrise.



*Dragonfly adult*



*Damselfly adult*

Adults feed on flying insects which they catch on the wing. (Is that what happened on Nelson that day?) They are incredible flyers because, unlike most insects, they can flap their wings independently of each other. This allows them to go forward, backward, hover, or loop-the-loop. Some dragonflies have been clocked at 36 miles per hour for short flights. Added to their maneuverability, this makes them extremely adept predators.

Patterns for fishing damselfly and dragonfly nymphs are numerous. I like Dave Whitlock's patterns, of which there are several. Also, Gierach's Dragon Nymph, Neally's Dragon, and Kaufmann's Lake Dragon. They can be tied in sizes 4 to 12, and fished deep, in a jerky retrieve.

I have not fished adult patterns, but quite a few excellent ones exist. Try some.

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## Education Committee News

*Ron Robinson*

robinsonrs@cox.net

**Basic Fly Tying:** Our basic fly tying classes start on Sept. 6th at the Sunnyslope Community Center. All classes will run from 7 - 9 PM. The club supplies all equipment and materials at no charge. The first night will be a review of equipment and materials used in the art of fly tying along with mastering the whip finish tool and the "essential pinch". We will be tying flies at the next six classes.

Those dates are 11/11 & 13, 18 & 20 and 25 & 27. All members are invited even if you have attended previous classes.

**Basic Fly Casting:** We will have a casting class on basic techniques at Granada Park from 9 - 11 AM on Sept. 30. The park is located at the corner of 20th Street and Maryland. We will be at the upper pond. The club has equipment for those that are just starting out in our sport. The focus of the class will be on basic techniques. We will also have equipment for those that want to try some spey and heavier saltwater casting.

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## Conservation News

*Dick Kennedy*

The Bull Thistle Party and Crayfish Extravaganza was a great success. Thanks to Richard and Jan Girard for hosting it, Roger and Marti Cahoon for the Outings organization, and Patti Fenner from Tonto National Forest who brought along one of the survey crew to help map the infestation. Thanks also go to the numerous members who showed up to pick the pods and watch Marian and Chuck suck crawfish. I hope to find out the acreage we covered in our harvest. We cleared the meadow from the OW Bridge downstream to where the road starts back up a hill and the stream falls away to the left.

Here are a couple of items that might interest you. Public input is sought on the Game and Fish strategic plan. The draft document is called "Wildlife 2012". This will guide management of wildlife, outdoor recreation and operations for the years 2007-2012. An open meeting will be held in Mesa on Thurs. Sept 14, 2006 from 6-9 at the AZG&F office 7200 E. University. It's purpose will be to answer questions; comment can be submitted in writing through October 6. I am sure more information can be obtained from the AZG&F website. There are other meetings scattered throughout the state.

At the FFF Conclave this year, mention was made about a proposed gold and copper mine in the Bristol Bay area of Southwest Alaska. The mining company, Northern Dynasty, is proposing to build North America's largest open-pit mine in the Bristol Bay area. They have made applications to claim more than 73 million gallons a day to operate this mine. FFF President VanGytenbeek has spoken out strongly regarding the threat to salmon and trout from this mine and seeks to stop the approval of this venture. You can learn more by visiting these two websites:

[http://www.sportsmansalliance4ak.org/Issues/Issues\\_Bristol\\_Bay.html](http://www.sportsmansalliance4ak.org/Issues/Issues_Bristol_Bay.html)

[http://www.renewableresourcescoalition.org/pebble\\_mine.htm](http://www.renewableresourcescoalition.org/pebble_mine.htm)



Ron Rosenlof gets serious about eradicating bull thistle.

## This Month's Outing: Woods Canyon Lake

September 23rd - 24th

Roger Cahoon

### Bull Thistle/Craw fish Extravaganza:

*We had a great turnout for this event: 35 people attended the potluck including the Campground's Camp Hosts.*

*We did some real damage to the Bull Thistle down at the creek and we trapped enough crawfish to feed the potluck. Special thanks to Richard and Jan Girard, as Hosts, for a great weekend despite the rain.*

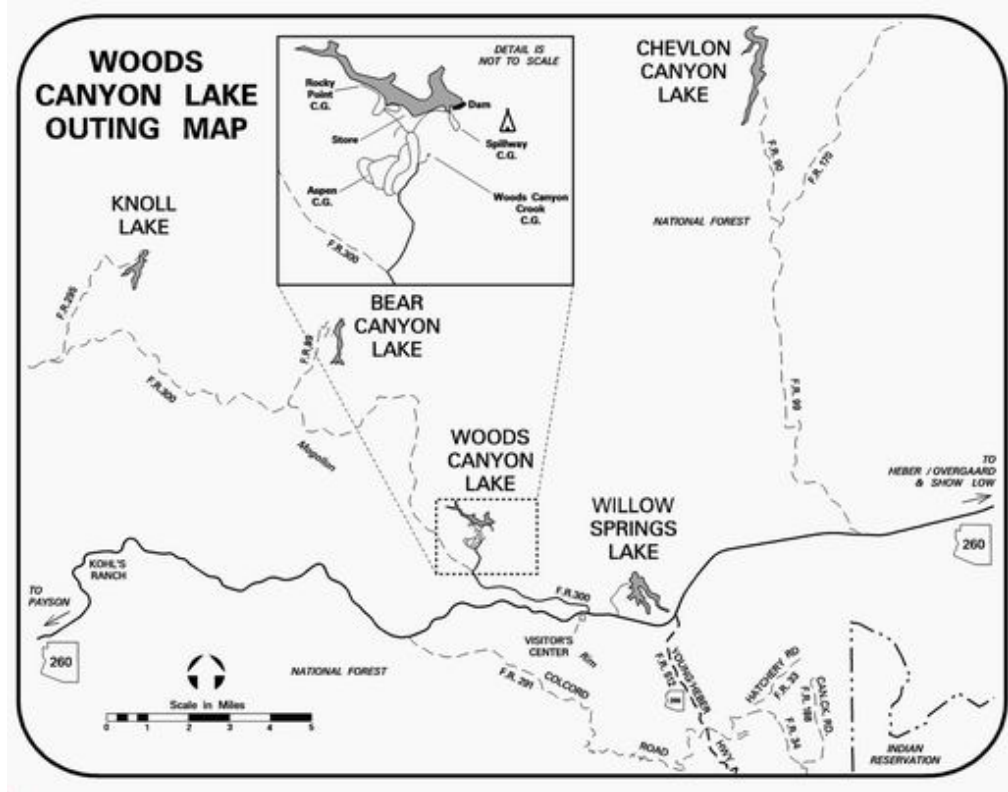
Our September 23<sup>rd</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> outing will be held at Woods Canyon. Most everyone is familiar with Woods Canyon Lake and the opportunity it offers for a successful fishing weekend. This is especially true if you are a new member as it is only a short drive from Phoenix and there will be plenty of us available to help you catch a trout on a fly.

The lake can be very productive when fished from shore so it is not imperative to have a float tube. Flies to consider would include Woolly Buggers, Fuzzy Wuzzies, Peacock Ladies, Pheasant Tails, Semi Seal Leech, Peacock Callibaetis, etc. Dries to consider are Elk Hair Caddis, Adams, Stimulators, etc.

The club has reserved the group campground located at the lake. It will be available for our use Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> after 1:00pm for those planning on spending the weekend. Our camp host will be Phil Wagner. The potluck will be at 3:00pm on Saturday as always. Bring a main, side or dessert to share.

To get to Woods Canyon Lake take Highway 87 North out of Phoenix to Payson. Turn right on Highway 260 and go north about 30 miles to the top of the rim. Turn left at the Woods Canyon Lake sign (Forest Road 300), go about 3 miles and turn right at the entrance to the lake (Forest Road 105). Follow the A.F.C signs to the campground.

I hope to see many members attend this outing and highly recommend it to newer members as it will be a great way to pick up some pointers and meet others in the club.



### President's Riffles *Continued from page 1*

the area by making the section from the headwaters of the river to the OW bridge a "put and take fishery". Here is your chance to comment on this very important issue. There will be public hearings during September and October at various places around the state. The specific dates here in Phoenix are October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 7:00-9:00 at the La Quinta Inn at 2510 West Greenway or in Mesa on October the 3<sup>rd</sup> from 7:00-9:00 at the AZGF Regional Office at 7200 East University. I think after all of the hard work and money we as a club have put into this fishery we need to let them know we as sport fishermen are not in favor of this proposed change.

If you have been attending classes, outings or any other club functions and you have been taking pictures please e-mail some of them to me at the address above or even to the club newsletter editors Marian Tallon and Donna Walkuski so they can be used in the newsletter or shown at the monthly meetings.

As always, I hope to have the opportunity to fish with you.

**2006  
AFC  
Board  
of Directors**

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Donna Walkuski .....	<i>Newsletter</i> .....	602.956.4878	....	dtw@deru.com

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**Fishing with Back Pain**

**Federation  
News**

*by Kim Lyons -from the Northwest Women Flyfishers Newsletter*

*Dario Travaini  
FFF Representative*

For those of you who suffer from painful lower back conditions, sitting in a boat with poor seat support - especially a pontoon boat or float tube - can be a long painful day.

I have discovered a wonderful device that allows me to spend much more time in my pontoon boat or float tube, with much more comfort and much less pain. It is a simple little self-inflating portable lumbar support made by Thermarest. Since it is inflatable, it can get wet without any problems. I stick mine inside my waders, right under my waist belt and then the cinch belt to hold it in place. Adjusting the amount of support is as easy as just turning the open/close valve since it is self inflating. It also works well in the car, camp chair, airplane and office. It is available at REI and probably any other store that carries travel items, for \$34.95. I'm not an official spokes person for this product. I've just discovered that I'm a lot more comfortable and pain-free when I use this and I really miss it when I don't. It helps to maintain better posture throughout the day and reduces the dreaded, painful slouch that becomes unavoidable in a boat seat.

Since I know that many of my sister/fellow fly fishers also suffer from significant lower back pain, I felt it may be helpful to share this device with others just in case it may help someone else too.

For product information, including online retailers, see: <http://thermarest.com/> (search for Lumbar Pillow and use their dealer locator for the store closest to you).

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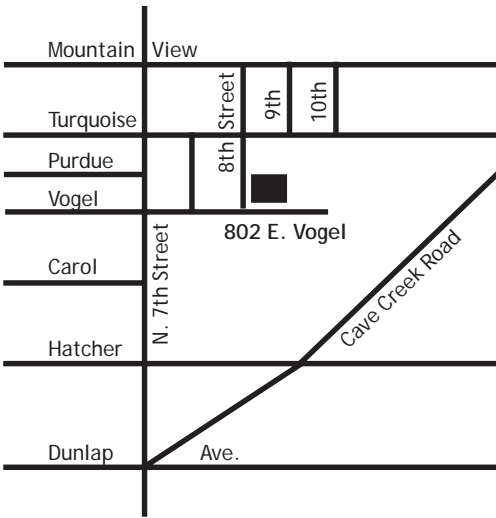
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Arizona Flycasters Club meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month at the Sunnyslope Community Center. The Annual Banquet is held in the month of February. Watch for further details.

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## 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 all those which interest 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>



Next Meeting:  
**Providing for the  
 Future of Our  
 Fisheries**

with  
**Linn Montgomery**

Thursday,  
 September 14th  
 7:00 PM

This space reserved for your name and address.

Don't Miss Out-

**Join Today!**