



## *The January 2019 NEWSLETTER*

**Northern Arizona Flycasters  
An active member club of the World Wide organization  
“Fly Fishers International”  
“Conservation, Restoration, and Education through Fly Fishing”**

**We support active involvement in coldwater fisheries conservation. We work to insure that Arizona’s habitat is not degraded and in the development and maintenance of fly fishing opportunities.**

**We support the practice of “catch and release”, the use of barbless hooks, and quick and harmless release practices. Fish should never be kept out of the water for over 60 seconds.**

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Northern Arizona Flycasters meets the first Wednesday of the month at the Arizona Game and Fish Regional office at 3500 S. Lake Mary Road, Flagstaff. Meetings start at 7 PM with a board meeting at 6 PM.  
The meetings are free and the public is invited.

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### **PRESIDENT’S DRIFT – J Shambaja**

#### Special Date Announcements



For the **January Club meeting**, we are **rescheduling to January 9<sup>th</sup>**. Thus, the January first Wednesday meeting is moved to the **second Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>**. This is for the January meeting only.

President`s Drift

If you were not able to attend this year`s Northern Arizona Flycasters and Grand Canyon Trout Unlimited Christmas Party, you missed a wonderful social event. I have received positive feedback from attendees. I encourage everyone to attend our club meetings and engage in our social activities; our regular attendees will welcome you and are willing to share their fishing spots and knowledge. This year our Christmas Party hosts were Donna and Mac; they were delightful hosts. And, **thank you Donna and Mac** to opening you home to our membership. Photos are from the Christmas Party.

Your club has had a busy 2018 with creation of the Paul Weitz memorial College Scholarship, attendance at the Native and Wild Trout Conference, socials with Game and Fish employees, club member Casey winning the San Juan raffle, conservation work on local still waters, participation in national public policy regarding Lees Ferry fishery. We anticipate a busy 2019 with conservation work, socials and outings to go fishing. Please join-in with conservation and socials, this is a great way to make fishing partners. We are currently working on development of a **women`s only fly-cast clinic** taught exclusively by women; thus, if you are interested in attending please let me know.

In fact, we have a Northern Arizona Flycasters and TU club outing scheduled to visit **Silver Creek (Show Low area) on February 27**. The clubs went last February and it was a Blue Bird day. However, we do not anticipate the mild weather this February, rather expect some snow on the ground. Also, we have chosen a Wednesday because we are anticipating lots of Ski visitors on the weekend conflicting with lodging needs. We are expecting a fun time and catching big fish; we already have

reports from folks in Prescott and the Verde Valley that they are going. So, mark your calendar for Wednesday, February 27, 2019 and consider staying overnight.

Plus, although not a club outing, a number of club members are planning fishing trips to the San Juan River, New Mexico, in March and or April; more details to be defined in the future. So, come to the club meetings and ask members about these trips; they are seeking additional members to join the fun. In addition, Neil is looking to go to the Conejos in Colorado this summer, several club members have previously fished this area and look forward to the upcoming trip. Again, they are looking for additional club members to join in the adventures. Also, this year Neil is offering an opportunity for members join him to fish the Dubois area (Wind River basin) in Wyoming this August. The Wind River basin is part of the Trout Golden Triangle (Wyoming, Montana and Idaho) also known as the Greater Yellowstone Region. Those members that went with Neil last year had a great time and had days where they caught 100 fish. All are welcome and encouraged to inquire about these outings, so bring your old friends and make new friends.

Our Board of Directors is always looking to add new members to the Board of Directors, please join us. If you are interested just let me know. Also, if you have existing computer media skills or would like to gain new skills, we need volunteers to assist with our media outreach, this would be working on the web page and facebook exposure. And, you club's revenue comes from only two sources, club raffles and the annual membership fee. So, if you have not already renewed your membership please join us again in 2019. You can either bring you fee to the club meeting, Laura LaBranche will assist with the renewal or new membership or you can mail your check to P.O. Box 2924, Flagstaff, AZ 86003.

President Jack

Go Represent Your Water

NAF needs your involvement and there are many volunteer venues available such as fishing trips, conservation, writing about club activities, and fund raising. Remember, NAF raises funds

to support conservation efforts; we are a non-profit organization. You can sign-up to volunteer on our web site. <http://nazflycasters.com/volunteer/>

## **EDUCATION**

In case you have leftover cash from Christmas here are a few of the new products for 2019. There is always something that you need.

### Telluride Angler's Top 10 New Products

#### 1. Sage Dart



The Dart is Sage's latest venture into the specialty small stream category and a welcomed introduction to the lineup. Available in line weights #0-4, all 7'6" inches or less, the Dart Series is more specialized than the Little One, TXLF and other somewhat longer "creek fishing" rods from Sage. Pair your Dart with a Rio Creek line and get ready to drive tacks on the creek, throwing "dart-like" loops.

## 2. Scott F Series



Scott hit a home run with the new fiberglass F Series and truly created a series of fiberglass rods that has no equal. These rods go about casting and fishing in a way that is just plain fun. Each model is unique and fills a different niche in the creek rod category. From the dry fly purist F 622/4 to the all-rounder F 724/4, there is a glass rod in this lineup you should own. There's even a 5' 8" 3-wt 4-piece model for those who seek the ultimate toy. Read what we had to say about the sweet little sticks and check out our on-the-water video. If casting one doesn't make you smile, consider taking up golf!

## 3. **New Fly Lines From SA and Rio**

## Rio Creek Line



Rio's Creek line is the answer for shorter graphite fly rods (graphite rods under 8 feet), earning a spot in our top 10 for being a successful purpose-driven product. Rio created a taper that concentrates the weight of the head toward the front of the fly line and helps the rod load up at short distances. With the right fly rod, like the new Sage Dart, this line absolutely sings and provides for intuitive accuracy. The Rio Creek line is available from WF0F to a WF4F and pairs best with these rods: Sage Dart (all models), Scott Radian 753/4, Sage X 376-4, Sage Pulse 376-4, Scott Flex 753/4.

#### 4. Ross Evo LTX Reel



The Ross crew in Montrose has been killing it! The Ross Evolution LTX is the culmination of their expert machining and dedication to detail. Lightweight with true large arbors and a drag system designed for both fresh and saltwater, these reels look stunning and fish even better. The Evo LTX is available in black or platinum, sizes 3/4, 4/5, 5/6, and 7/8, all under \$400.

#### 5. Fishpond Thunderhead Submersible Packs and Bags



The folks at Fishpond have made “waterproof” a mainstream concept with their Thunderhead packs and duffel bags. Across the line, all Thunderheads are 100% waterproof and submersible, featuring TiZip waterproof zippers. The primary materials are 100% recycled, derived from old fishing nets. These bags look good, perform flawlessly and tell a great story. For 2019, Fishpond has added a Chest Pack and a Roll Top Duffel to the lineup (same great duffel bag but with a roll top closure rather than a zipper to keep the price point down)

## 6. Hatch Finatic Gen 2 Custom Colors

Remember when all saltwater reels were a gold color and most trout reels some shade of black? Sure, it’s been awhile, but today the angler may choose a reel to match almost any rod or any mood. Hatch is in the second year of its limited edition color program and the lineup for 2019 is very cool and classy. The two finishes available for the holidays are Bluewater (in the house) and Oxblood (shipping December 1). Although completely original colors, they are more subdued than last year’s offerings and have a more traditional appearance. Think suit and tie rather than khaki shorts and a Hawaiian shirt. Give us a call for insight on specific rod pairings for balance and cosmetic appeal. If you’re looking for a color from 2018, we have select sizes in some of those finishes as well.





[\[Shop Hatch Limited Edition Colors\]](#)



## 7. Patagonia Snap Dry [Hoody](#) and [Shirt](#)

Patagonia has stepped up their game with the new Snap-Dry tops. Available in a hooded full zip jacket and snap closure collared shirt, these pieces are built with a 4-way stretch soft shell material that is comfortable, durable and weather resistant. The hoody has that “roll out of bed comfort” that is at home belled up to a bar or holding down the bow of a drift boat. The body and hood have a high loft and highly breathable brushed poly lining to add just enough warmth to a trucker hat and fishing shirt, while the arms are unlined and fast drying for easy releases. The button down Snap-Dry shirt is built on the same 4-way stretch soft shell material and promises to be a western trout daily wear piece. [\[Shirt Colors\]](#) [\[Hoody Colors\]](#)



## 8. Simms G3 Guide Wader River Camo

Camo hounds, Simms now offers their all-time G3 Guide Wader in a proprietary pattern they call River Camo. These are the exact same G3 Guide Waders you know and love with the updated Gore Tex Pro Shell Wader fabric exclusive to Simms. The camo pattern comes from a collaboration with Veil Camo and is designed to disrupt the human shape from a fish's perspective. Simms makes an entire collection of apparel and accessories in the new River Camo theme, so you can go head to toe and get your full trout ninja game on. We'll see you out there, or maybe we won't?

River Camo G3 Guide waders retail for \$549.95

## 9. Patagonia Black Hole Wheeled Duffel Bag 120L

Patagonia's Black Hole duffel bags have traveled the world over and carried everything under the sun en route. For us fish heads, Patagonia threw a big old Fitz Roy Trout on the side of their 120L Wheeled Duffel and also the popular 60L Duffel. Now you can let your fish flag fly while traveling in style with the best duffel bags in our industry. The 120L Wheeled Duffel costs \$349 and the 60L Duffel is \$129.





10. **Simms Coldweather Shirt and Simms Telluride Angler Logo hat**

While Telluride is not the coldest place to fly fish (we wouldn't try to rob you of that, Montana), it does sit at 8,750' in the San Juan Mountains of Southwest Colorado. The Simms Coldweather Shirt is a heavy flannel of 100% brushed polyester for a cotton-like feel without the impossible dry time. It is lined with micro check fleece that is toasty, cozy and ready for a stout beer, a pickup truck and some chainsaw work.

**NAF EVENTS SCHEDULE**

**Flagstaff - January 9th, 7pm** Game and Fish - How to fish the Southern Rockies by Author Paul Downing

**Items under discussion by board**

Assist FS and AG&F with preparing trees for placement in Kinnikinick Lake- Now scheduled for 2019.

Fishing outings to the Williams lakes

Fly casting sessions on a regular basis.

**The Board welcomes suggestions from members.**

**There will additional events so watch this space**

**NAF CLUB OFFICERS/COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

President	Jack Shambaugh
Vice-President	Mike Clementino
Secretary	Mac McIlwaine
Treasurer	Denise Dean

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