



MESSAGE FROM THE PREZ

Well we've done it again! We've had another great month of activities and have a roster of at least 78 and counting. That's right, with renewals and new members we have at least 11 more households on the roster since the last newsletter. I know we can get over 80.

The rod/reel auction, held on February 21, went very well. We raised \$1295 for the Kramel family and members got some great gear. A special thank you to Jerry Kemple, who dedicated his time and effort to make this happen. He has also informed me that he does have a couple of reels still to be auctioned.

After a brief discussion, we have decided to look at late summer or fall for having our banquet. No specific date has been picked yet. Since this banquet is a members' banquet and not a fundraising banquet, we need to think about what types of club fundraising we are going to do in the future. We need to get a fundraising committee going in the next couple of months to explore the possibilities. I hope you will be open to being a part of the process.

Are you getting out to fish? For the first couple of weeks of catch and keep at McKay Park, I kinda stayed away. That may have been as much to do with the colder weather along with avoiding the immediate rush. In the last couple of weeks, I have gone more and had varied success. It seemed that the mid-morning was producing better results. I've had fun regardless of the outcome and even caught a couple of crappie that I could have kept.

On the last weekend of the catch and release season, Doug Grove invited me down to fish with him at Bennett Spring. He was able to fish Friday through Monday and I met him to fish on Saturday and Sunday. Both mornings started out cold! It was in the 20's and I had to warm the hands every once in a while. Fishing was slower for me in the mornings, but by 10-11 am we were both catching fish consistently. I was mainly using scuds and midges. I used the Sowbug and Ray Charles patterns we learned in fly tying and caught a few fish. Tried some top water flies with limited success. What a great way to end the catch and release season. Thanks for the invite Doug.

*I am planning to go down to the Sowbug Roundup on March 23-25 and I was hoping to go down with my dad. He has something else going on at the same time and it looks like he won't make it to Arkansas for the event. It sure would make for a more enjoyable time if someone else was interested in going down with me. **If anyone is interested**, we can attend the Roundup, fish, and eat some good food. If we were to get a guide for a boat trip, we need to think about a booking soon. It may already be too late. If this is something you might want to do, just contact me.*

Fish on,

Greg Curtin

LAST FLY TYING SESSION

Say it ain't so! Just one fly tying session left on the February schedule. February 28, gives us an extra Tuesday and 9 total sessions this year. A big thank you to John Walther and Michael Collins for leading the way and presenting some great patterns. John and Michael had to swap dates at the last minute, so Empie's Deadly Shiner Minnow will be the fly at this session. Be sure not to miss another great session. Same place, same times, and same fun! We will be upstairs again for this one. If you have any questions, just ask.



MATERIALS DONATION

There will be a fly tying materials auction at the last Fly tying sessions on February 28. An ending time will be announced once the fly tying session concludes. Everyone will be given an appropriate amount of time to get their bids in. We have been asking for the last couple of weeks for any materials you could donate to help the club raise funds. We will still accept items the night of the auction. We ask that you try and bring 5 items and have the items turned in no later than 6 pm to give us time to organize. Jerry Kemple informed me that there are also reels to be auctioned off as well. I do not have details to share about the reels. Some of the materials proceeds will go to CCF and some will go to the Kramel family.

MARCH MEETING WITH GUEST SPEAKER

The March club meeting will be on Tuesday, March 14. We will have a board meeting at 6 pm and then the members meeting starting at 7 pm. Our guest speaker for March will be Sam Stewart from the MDC. Sam has been a friend to our club for years now. He has made presentations, done fly tying demos, and done some virtual meetings as well.

Sam is currently the MDC's Conservation Coordinator for the Ozark Region. Sam works with school teachers in conjunction with the MDC's Discover Nature Schools (DNS) program. DNS is a conservation-based learning program that incorporates outdoor topics into school subjects. Sam is also involved with Hunter Education and promoting the Missouri National Archery in the Schools Program for his region. Before that he was in Jefferson City as a Naturalist at the Runge Nature Center and a Conservation Educator in the Central Region for six years.

Sam has developed a love for Small-mouth Bass fly fishing and this will be the topic he will speak about at our March meeting. He should cover some different tips, tricks, gear, and maybe even a secret location or two to help have a successful fish. This is a great opportunity to get answers to your bass fishing questions.

Sam has an archery tournament to be at the next day, so he will lead off the meeting. We will start the meeting promptly at 7 pm. Please keep this in mind. Thanks!!!

SUMMER OUTINGS

The dates and locations are now set for our three summer outings. They are as follows:

-May 9 at Countryside Park in Taos, MO

-June 13 at Binder Park in Jefferson City, MO

-July 11 at Jaycee Park (County Park) in Jefferson City, MO

We will have two potlucks with a fish fry and pulled pork as the main dishes and one pizza night. Look at your calendar to check these dates. We will need a reasonably accurate head count for the two potlucks to provide the right amount of fish or pulled pork. We will start sending a sign up sheet around which will also ask what you might bring as your potluck item. Always a great time. You will even have the opportunity to get some fishing in!!

WE GATHER TOGETHER

We are going to try something new this year. Aside from the regular monthly club meeting, we will get together every Tuesday for an informal gathering. There will be no instructors, no plans, or specific topics to be followed. It is simply a time to tie flies, tell stories, or anything else you might want to bring to the group. With a goal of tying 1500 flies for Women's Free Fishing Day in September, this would be a perfect time for that. John Walther and Michael Collins may want some help putting materials together for future fly tying sessions. You may want to talk about a fishing experience in the past, present, or future. You may want to get some one on one tying demos. You may have general fishing questions. An informal gathering sounds like a great option for all of these things.

So, we will start having informal gatherings right after the fly tying sessions end on February 28. Which means the following Tuesday, March 7th will be the first one. We will continue to meet in the basement meeting room at the K of C Hall on Tanner Bridge road. We will start with a time frame of 6 to 8 pm and see how it goes. If you are looking for something to do, this could be it.

 Saturday, March 11, 2023
It's the Tri-Lakes Fly Fishing...

EXPO

9 AM – 4 PM The Benson Center, Clinton MO



Learn from nationally recognized fly tyer & White River & North Fork guide, Brian Wise...LIVE!

Meet & Get Tips from 40+ Fly Tyers from Across the Nation!

See the latest in Fishing & Outdoor Gear!

TWO Brian Wise Workshops. AM & PM
Admission is FREE

LIVE AUCTION: RODS, REELS, GUIDED TRIPS! RAFFLES, SILENT AUCTIONS, DRAWINGS, VENDORS & MUCH MORE!
Breakfast & Lunch served on site



26th Annual International Sowbug Roundup

March 23rd, 24th & 25th, 2023

9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Baxter County Fairgrounds, Mountain Home, Arkansas

Travel is Fun



Travel + Fly Fishing is an Adventure
Join us at the Sowbug Roundup

More than 150 Fly Tyers
Vast Variety of Vendors
Great Auctions and Raffles
Free Fly Fishing Seminars
Free Fly Tying Classes

Admission \$10.00 for all three days
Adults with kids
12 and under admitted free

Presented by North Arkansas Fly Fishers
www.northarkansasflyfishers.org -
www.sowbugroundup.org
See us on Facebook

STREAM TEAM UPDATE

Water Quality Monitoring: April 15 or 29? Our club has monitored Big Saline Creek in Miller County for over 20 years. The state head of Stream Teams spoke to us and commended us for the consistent effort. Since I am level 2 certified, they have confidence of the accuracy of our reports. We have seen a number of trends. Water quality has generally been very good, because there are usually caddis, mayflies and stone flies, which require pure water. There are always pollution tolerant insects as well. We see smaller numbers of bugs and that flooding has taken a toll. We always have a good time counting insects and checking dissolved oxygen levels and doing a few other chemical tests. The last few times, we went fishing after monitoring and we will do that again this time. We can either fish a trout park or go to the lake for crappie. Let me know if you can go and where you prefer to fish.

TU is taking advantage of benefits for trout and salmon from the Bipartisan Infrastructure and Inflation Reduction Laws. These laws provide \$1.2 trillion in benefits for coldwater fisheries. If fully implemented the latter can reduce emissions by 40%. There are billions of dollars available to benefit coldwater habitats including forest, dams and culverts, fisheries, mine clean up and much more. [Check out the PDF with this link to see the specific TU projects that will benefit.](#) In September TU had gotten around \$20M but the amount is now \$70M.

The runoff from years of salting the roads could be affecting the Mississippi River. Currently, chloride is a pollutant found in the river, and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) states on its website that the pollutants are getting worse as the years go by, adding that salt is now part of the problem.

Chloride poses a significant risk to Missouri's freshwater lakes and streams. Because chloride does not degrade or settle out of water, prevention is the only option. As a result, lakes and streams are becoming more salty. At high concentrations, salt, and especially the chloride part of salt (sodium chloride), is bad for fish and other aquatic life. Five liters of water are polluted by one teaspoon of salt.

The Missouri River reached a historic low near Jefferson City last month.

The US Geological Survey's Missouri River gauge recorded a water level of -2.8 feet Dec. 29. A cold snap froze the already low river water, creating an ice jam near Booneville and sinking levels downstream to record lows.

But a lack of natural rain and snowfall throughout the middle of the country, coupled with the complicated structures and competing state interests governing the river, has resulted in declining river flow levels for the past couple of years. The Missouri River has seen extreme weather conditions for longer, though, as cycles of severe flooding and drought plague the regions it carves through.

*Hope you are enjoying some early spring fishing,
Jeff Holzem
Stream Team Coordinator*

CONSERVATION DAY AT THE CAPITOL

Conservation Day at the Capitol, hosted by the Conservation Federation of Missouri(CFM), brings dedicated conservationists together to show off their passion for the outdoors and the importance of supporting Missouri's conservation landscape for the future. It takes place on Wednesday, April 5 from about 7:30 am to 1 pm. More event information will be released by the CFM some time after the 87th Annual Convention concludes this weekend.

Capital City Fly Fishers will show its support of Missouri conservation by signing up to attend the event. We will be looking for a few volunteers. We will discuss it more as more information comes in from the CFM. If you are interested in being a part of the event, please come talk to me.

FISH PHOTOS



Phil has his sights on a nice rainbow



Doug living his best life at Bennett



Wow, show us how it's done Ray!



There are still some good fish coming out of McKay



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February

28 *Fly Tying Session #9*

March

1 *Opening Day of Trout Seasons*
2 *Fly Tying For Veterans – Columbia, MO*
4 *Men's Trout Fishing Tournament – Montauk State Park*
7 *Informal Gathering*
11 *Tri-Lakes Fly Fishers Expo 2023 – Clinton, MO*
11 *Women's Trout Fishing Tournament – Montauk State Park*
14 *Club Meeting*
16 *Fly Tying For Veterans – Columbia, MO*
21 *Informal Gathering*
23-25 *Sowbug Roundup – Mountain Home, AR*
28 *Informal Gathering*

April

4 *Informal Gathering*
5 *Conservation Day at the Capital - Conservation Federation of Missouri*
6 *Fly Tying For Veterans – Columbia, MO*
11 *Club Meeting*
18 *Informal Gathering*
15 *Veterans Free Fishing Day – Bennett Spring*
20 *Fly Tying For Veterans – Columbia, MO*
25 *Informal Gathering*
27 *Senior Citizens' Trout Fishing Tournament – Montauk State Park*

May

2 *Informal Gathering*
4 *Fly Tying For Veterans – Columbia, MO*
6 *Spring Kids Free Fishing Day – Montauk State Park*
9 *Club Outing – Countryside Park Taos,MO*
16 *Informal Gathering*
18 *Fly Tying For Veterans – Columbia, MO*
20 *Spring Kids Free Fishing Day – Roaring River State Park*
20 *Kids Free Fishing Day – Maramec Spring State Park*
23 *Informal Gathering*
30 *Informal Gathering*

Note: Attached you will find the Montauk State Park – 2023 Calendar of Special Events. It has more than just fishing related events, so be sure to check it out.

**Capital City
Fly Fishers**



NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2023