



MESSAGE FROM THE PREZ

We have finally gotten into better temperatures so all we need now is some precipitation to add a little more water into the lakes and streams. That hasn't stopped me from doing a little fishing this month. My dad and I went down to Veterans Free fishing Day at Montauk State Park on September 9th. Phil Wisch, also drove down to take in some fishing. While there, we also ran into Earl Schuessler and Jerry Forck at the Veterans lunch. Both, Earl and Jerry, were fortunate enough to each win a new spin reel at the raffle. Speaking for myself, I had an enjoyable fishing day. Even though the water was low and clear which made it a little harder to draw a strike, I caught 30+ fish on the day.

The Following weekend my dad and I made the trip down to Branson to spend part of Friday at the FFI Fly Tyers Rendezvous and fishing on Taneycomo later Friday and all day Saturday. There were around 30 people tying on Friday and they were expecting over 40 on Saturday. We saw some really good flies being tied. We arrived at Taneycomo around 3 pm and by that time they had 3 to 4 generators working. That meant a limited area to fish and other people to cast around. We did catch a few fish. Later that afternoon, Phil Wisch arrived on the scene. It was toward the end of our fishing day so he did not get in the water Friday.

Saturday started earlier on the water. There were no generators running as well as many people to start the morning. They were again up to three generators around 3 pm. I changed flies quite a few times to try and entice the fish. I would catch one or two on a particular fly and then things would die down and I would have to change again. I used all sorts of flies from wet flies (midges, scuds, eggs, and worms), dry flies (gnats, cracklebacks, ants, and beetles), streamers, and the pellet fly. The fly that had the greatest success was a shammy worm that caught 9-10 fish. Since he had not been to the Rendezvous, Phil Wisch fished for just a few hours and during that time I saw him catch a few fish. My dad had a lot of action as well.

Thank you to everyone that was able to volunteer over the last few weeks. We had a short notice request for help from the Conservation Federation of Missouri (CFM), veterans fly tying in Columbia, and the CFM affiliates summit all happen in september. We took the final vote and now the bylaws will update for the 2024 calendar year. Remember one of the changes is that the annual membership rate goes up to \$20 for next year and is due by December 31st. An updated copy will be posted on our website and may already be there.

Next in line we have Women's Free Fishing Day, Veterans fly tying, Redington Home Waters, and Stream Team water quality testing. We need everyone's help, so come show your support.

*Thanks,
Greg Curtin*

WOMEN'S FREE FISHING DAY

Next Saturday, September 30th, is the big day! Women's Free Fishing Day is one of the last big events we have planned this year. If you are free to come and help, we are asking for your assistance. After presenting the sign up sheet at the last members meeting, we actually went down in count for volunteers. With the 9 to 10 people we have signed up, we should be OK, but all are welcome to help. If we are talking about possibly making it an even bigger event next year, we will definitely need more volunteers, so please try to keep the end of September free for next year.

Here are the basic details one more time:

Start Time: 9 am - Please be there at least 30 to 60 minutes earlier for set up
Where: Bennett Spring State Park - Zone 2 - You should see a big tent
Roles: Fly Tying Demonstrators - please bring your own equipment and materials
Handing out fly boxes - 100 fly boxes to give away
Helping on the stream if needed

JIM ROGERS

I would like to send out a big thank you to Jim Rogers for putting on an incredible demonstration of casting. His distance and accuracy were done with what looked like so little effort. He was making 80-100 ft casts with no trouble and dropping his line right across the placed markers. Phil Curtin stepped in as a volunteer, so Jim could help show his training techniques when teaching casting to others. You could see why he is a certified master instructor. To be there and see techniques that could help improve my casting was priceless.

If you are looking for help to improve your skills, you are in luck. Jim teaches his techniques at Bennett Spring State Park. You can find the information about his school on his website at:

www.jimrogersflyfishing.com



Jim demos for the group



Jim teaching his pupil

REDINGTON HOME WATERS

*The Redington Home Waters event takes place on October 7th. There will be vendors, demos, contests, the fly fishing film tour movie, and maybe even some giveaways. You can go back to last month's newsletter if you want to see the event flyers. **CCFF will be there to do some fly tying demonstrations.** We would be happy to have any and all that would like to come out to demo. Figure on starting at 9 am and going until mid to late afternoon.*

STREAM TEAM UPDATE

My apologies to Jeff Holzem for not requesting a stream team article sooner. I wanted to try and get the newsletter out by Monday morning.

We will have our water quality monitoring on Saline Creek on October 14th. If you are available and have never done this before, it might be a good thing to check out. The most fun I have is checking on the quality of life by seeing what insects are in the water. Insects I have seen are mayflies, snails, aquatic worms, crane fly larvae, caddis, water pennies, and stoneflies amongst others. We check on water depth, speed, clarity, and pH balance. When we are done, the points are tallied to come to a grade for the water quality. It really is a great experience.

*Most times we will then plan to fish somewhere after we finish testing. I would propose going to The Roubidoux this time. It is not too far from where we monitor. **Plan to leave from the Assembly of God parking lot (across from Schulte's Fresh Foods) at 6:15 am.** Jeff may even be willing to stop and get donuts for everyone that attends. Please let me know if you can make it so we can have a proper head count.*

STATE RECORD FISH CAUGHT

Congratulations to John Goad for getting in the Record Books!!! On May 8th, 2023 John tied the state record of 5 ounces for a longear sunfish. The record was caught on Frieda Lake in Crawford County. The fish was weighed on a certified MDC scale. To the right, John is being presented a plaque by Cole County Conservation Agent Cole Eidson.



CLC WORKSHOP

It was late August when we were contacted by the Conservation Federation of Missouri about helping at their Conservation Leadership Corps workshop less than three weeks away on September 16th at the Lake of the Ozarks State Park. Luckily, we had a great bunch of guys step up to help at the event. Thank you to John Walther, John Goad, Lee Kudrna, and Uldis Pironis for taking time out to make this a success. John Walther even brought a friend from out of town to help. If my list of members helping is not right, thank you to anyone I missed. The Corps members were divided into groups and would visit 4 demonstrations at the workshop. CCFM would be putting on two of the demonstrations. John Walther, along with his friend, and Uldis did the Fly tying demos. They created a simple, but effective. wooly worm. John Goad put on the fly casting portion with back up from Lee Kudrna. Lee also talked about flies and tippets during the casting portion. Thank you all for your time to bring more interest to fly fishing.



John G. Putting on a casting clinic



John demos the Wooly Worm



Lee discusses fly selection

CFM AFFILIATE SUMMIT

On September 7th, the Conservation Federation of Missouri held its 2023 Affiliate Summit. At the Summit they talked about past and present events and issues that have environmental impact on Missouri's natural resources. Some of the things mentioned were an update on Rock Island Trail State Park, the effects of lead on birds of prey, the Missouri Outdoor Recreational Access Program- Landowner program, the Meramec Dam and the Meramec River Basin Project of the past, recovering America's Wildlife Act, the Farm Bill, the Grassland Act, and other issues of concern.

A topic of interest for the CCFM was the grant writing workshop. With Uldis Pironis able to attend the day of events, this was probably the most valuable portion he attended. We have the opportunity to write a grant proposal to include the Women's Free Fishing Day that was talked about earlier. Grants must be conservation minded and advance conservation priorities. We have until December 15th to submit a proposal to help fund an event. We will need to have a bigger discussion at the October meeting to see if we can have something ready in time. We have 2 months to develop a proposal, so if anyone has experience with grant writing and would like help, we sure could use your assistance. Attached is the grant application. Thanks.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- 26** *Informal Gathering - 6pm start*
- 30** *Women's Free Fishing Day - Bennett Spring State Park - Volunteers Needed*

OCTOBER

- 3** *Informal Gathering - 6pm start*
- 5** *Fly Tying for Veterans - Columbia, MO*
- 7** *Redington Home Waters - Hidden Valley Outfitters - Near Bennett Spring State Park*
- 7** *Rose Holland Trout Derby – Montauk State Park*
- 10** *Monthly Members meeting - 6pm board - 7 pm members Guest Speaker - Bob Heine - Ozark Fly Fishers*
- 14** *Water Quality Monitoring at Saline Creek*
- 14** *Holland Cancer Derby – Bennett Spring*
- 17** *Informal Gathering - 6pm start*
- 19** *Fly Tying for Veterans - Columbia, MO*
- 24** *Informal Gathering - 6pm start*
- 31** *Informal Gathering - 6pm start*
- 31** *Last Day for Catch and Keep season at the Trout Parks*

NOVEMBER

- 1** *City trout stocking program begins throughout the state*
- 2** *Fly Tying for Veterans - Columbia, MO*
- 7** *Informal Gathering - 6pm start*
- 11-12** *Fly Fishing Clinic with Dr. Gary Borger - Gaston's Visitors Center - Bull Shoals, AR*
- 14** *Monthly Members meeting - 6pm board meeting - 7 pm regular meeting*
- 16** *Fly Tying for Veterans - Columbia, MO*
- 21** *Informal Gathering - 6pm start*
- 28** *Informal Gathering - 6pm start*

DECEMBER

- 5** *Informal Gathering - 6pm start*
- 7** *Fly Tying for Veterans - Columbia, MO*
- 12** *Monthly Members meeting - Christmas Potluck/Gift Exchange starts 6 pm*
- 19** *Informal Gathering - 6pm start*
- 21** *Fly Tying for Veterans - Columbia, MO*
- 26** *Informal Gathering - 6pm start*



Phil right before the strike



Phil with the prize in the net



A nice Taneycomo trout