



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE PREZ

Hey Everybody,

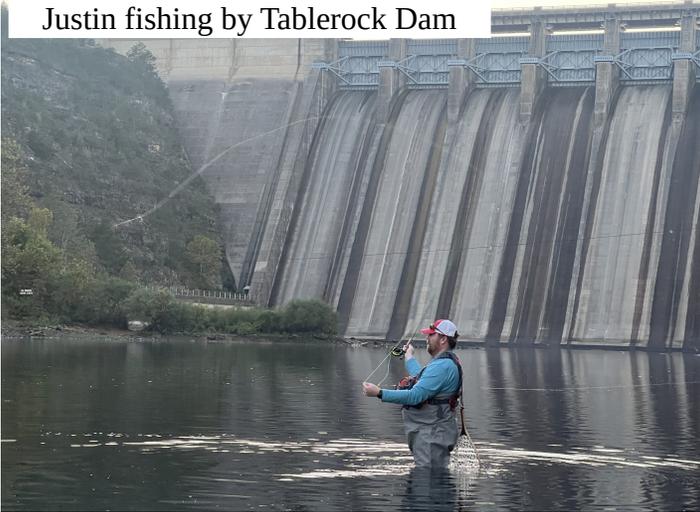
I hope you've all been doing well.

On October 11th, Greg & I attended the White River Fly Tying Expo. We enjoyed it & tied some flies. I tied variations on the Yellow Sally and had a couple of people stop by & learn how to tie them. I visited with Sam Stewart (who is our guest speaker in November), Cecil Woodman (who ties super small flies!), and met Brian Wise (a big name in the YouTube fly tying community & has a channel called "Fly Fishing the Ozarks").F



Justin & Brian Wise

Justin fishing by Tablerock Dam



While down in Branson, Greg & I fished at Lake Taneycomo on the 11th & 12th. Greg caught some nice rainbows & a brown. I caught some rainbows, and had it not bent my hook & got away, I would have caught the largest rainbow of my life!

The Tuesday after we returned was our monthly meeting with Michael Collins as the speaker. He shared details about the Blue Ribbon Trout Slam, which I eagerly took notes from, because I hope to start pursuing that later this year!

I look forward to our upcoming event & hope you do as well!

God Bless,
Justin



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WOMEN'S FREE FISHING DAY

Women's free fishing day was an absolute success. The official number of tags handed out was 548. What an incredible turnout! You couldn't have asked for a more gorgeous day to have an event or to fish.

The activities were to start at 9 AM, but with a line starting to form, we kicked it off about 15 minutes early. By about 9:30 AM, the 100 fly boxes were gone. Luckily, a lot of volunteers were tying flies and could hand out more throughout the day.

It was close, but with the \$1000 that we received from the David Risberg Memorial Grant and some donated gear from Rockin' C Outdoors, we made it all day with items at the gear giveaway table. We handed out over 250 items.

In order to encourage membership into the club, we ran a special promotion the day of the event only. This brought us 5 new members. We welcome you all and hope you will join us in our many events throughout the year.



A GREAT DAY

Thank you to everyone who made it out to help at Women's Free Fishing Day. With your help we were able to make the day a great experience for everyone involved. A lot of ladies passed through the tent and we withstood the challenge until the end.

Thank you Jim and Sharon Washabaugh for helping promote the membership drive by signing copies of your book. It gave us a little bit extra oomph.

Thank you to the other organizations that participated. Our sponsor, the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC)/Hatchery Management team did an incredible job getting everything setup and running smoothly from start to finish. Ben Havens and his staff did a great job! Thanks for the morning coffee and lunch for all the volunteers.

The Conservation Federation of Missouri, WildHERness, and Friends of Bennett Spring also participated. Thank you for enhancing the event even more.



Sharon with Lunker

Let's not forget about some of the successes the women had during the day. For example, Sharon from Washington, MO came away early with a 5 3/4 lb Lunker right across from the tent. The crowd cheered!

There were a lot of young ladies out enjoying the activities of the day with their families. It's great to see young kids getting outside and hopefully developing some conservation minded practices.

Marilyn Forck was able to spend the day with family.



Kids winning gear

The best example of a successful day might've been Judy. She came to the activities tent to check everything out and came away with a free fly fishing combo. She had never used a fly rod before, but wanted to give it a try. Luckily for her, John Goad was right there to help her set it up and give her some casting lessons on the spot. We then set her up with a cream mop fly and she was headed to the water. Judy had several strikes, but to no avail. She had the determination to stick with it and that effort paid off. Pictured is her first fish on the fly. Not too bad! She ended up catching at least one or two more before the end of the event.



Family Fun



Judy first fish on the fly

Again, thank you all for your support to make this event what it is. I heard a lot of good feedback. Let's shoot for the same results next year!

REMEMBERING A FRIEND

If you were not yet aware, on September 24, we lost our friend Ray Bloomer. Ray loved to hunt, fish, and be a part of CCFF. I was lucky enough to be able to fish with Ray and Patty at Rockbridge Trout Ranch on multiple occasions. He had fished there several times and knew where to be to get the fish. Here are some photos from those trips.



I was remiss in not getting a card for everyone to sign at the last members meeting, but I will have one at the November meeting and it would be great if you were in attendance. Patty was kind enough to donate Ray's fly tying materials to the club to help raise funds for future events. This fly tying materials will be at the November meeting for those interested in donating to the club. Please take the time to thank Patty for her generosity and maybe even invite her out to lunch sometime.

ELECTIONS

It's still not too late!!!! If you are interested in being on the board for CCFF there is still time. Officer and Board of Directors positions are available and will be voted on at the November 11 members meeting. There are just a few days left for you to notify a current board member of your interest. If you are not able to be on the 2026 Board, we still need your vote at the meeting. It requires a certain percentage of club members to be present in order for the elections to proceed. Please take the time to be there.

WELCOME/CONGRATULATIONS TO

Welcome to --- Our latest club members -- Linda Chase, Janet Beeson Mitchell, Mark McCarty, Kathy Stone, Mike Beeson, and Mike Petchell. We are glad to have you join the group and hope you can participate in some of the activities and events we have throughout the year. Please check the Calendar of events to see what's going on. Next weekend on November 8, we have our Second Annual Kids Fishing Day in Jefferson City, MO. You are welcome to volunteer to help or Bring the kids down to have some fishing fun.

Congratulations to --- John Goad for completing the Missouri Blue Ribbon Trout Slam. He caught a trout in all 9 of the designated streams to earn the award. He was able to catch a fish at each stream on the first try and did it in about 2 months. Not only that, but John caught a lunker down at Roaring River State Park to earn the last of 4 lunker patches. A lunker patch for each trout park. Great job John!



Congratulations to --- Phil Curtin who took home First Place at the Redington Home Waters One Fly Contest. With a Rainbow 15 ½ inches long, he had the longest fish in the individual division. Phil won a rod, reel, and fly box for his catch. The Ruby 2 midge strikes again!

KIDS FISHING DAY AT MCKAY

It's coming up fast!!!! Next Saturday is Kids Trout fishing Day at McKay Park. I have a list of volunteers, but we can always use more people. Please come down to help with the activities. We will need people to tie flies, help with fishing, help with casting, help hand out fly boxes, help to give out tickets, help at giveaway table, help hand out information, help with the rod/reel combo giveaway activities, and more. We had planned to give away combos to the first 25 kids that picked up a bag of trash, but we had to make another plan. Luckily, we are not seeing too much litter right now. So, we will be having the kids complete activities, of which one will be to pick up a few pieces of trash. Other activities could include catch a fish, answer conservation trivia, obtain flies at the fly tying table, find items like on a scavenger hunt, and other possible activities.

We again will partner with the JC Parks Department for the event. They have been great to supply tents, tables, and some chairs. I suggest that you bring along a chair for yourself just in case there are not enough. They will also have hot dogs, chips, and water available for the kids. I'm not sure if there will be enough for volunteers, but let's make sure the attendees get first option.

We will start setting up tents and tables at 10 am and all are welcome to come out to help at that time. The event starts at Noon, but you should try to be there at least 30-45 minutes early to get an assigned activity. The event is scheduled from Noon to 3 pm, but all are welcomed to fish before and after. We would like a little help to get stuff taken down at the end.

If you have any questions please contact Greg Curtin via email at gjc14thebooks@gmail.com or text 651-492-4025. You can call, but if I am at work, I may not be able to answer.

Now is the time to remind all your contacts about the event! Invite your family and friends with kids to come and enjoy the day. Like the advertising says, the first 100 kids will get some fly/lure box, there are over 200 pieces of fishing gear, and at least 25 rod/reel combos kids can earn at the event. Lets get the word out.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our Tuesday, December 9 our members meeting will be the club Christmas party. If you have not attended one previously, it is a potluck where everyone brings a dish, side, or dessert to share with the group. Typically the turnout is in the 30s or 40s. Food serving starts at 6 pm and the entire household is welcomed.

We have a white elephant gift exchange after eating. We do not do gag gifts, we just put a \$10 range for the gifts and ask that it be a gift that you yourself would be interested in having. Bringing a gift with a higher value is OK, just remember that not everyone can do the same. There will be family members in attendance that participate in the gift exchange that have other interests than just fly fishing, so gifts do not have to be limited to fishing only. There have been items such as gift certificates, clothing, food, beverage, home goods, decorations, and so on. All family members that bring a wrapped gift, can participate in the exchange. More Details next newsletter.

FLY TYING SESSIONS

The new year is just a couple months away and that means the start of weekly fly tying sessions. John Walther and Michael Collins have been working to put together a great list of flies to tie for the upcoming year. Jot down the dates. January 6, 13, 20, 27 and February 3, 10, 17, 24 - Free to the public and materials provided.

New to fly tying - we will have a beginners table starting at 5:30 pm and then stay for the regular session at 6:15 pm.



**2nd ANNUAL
KIDS TROUT FISHING DAY**

**Where: McKay Park (Sunset Lake)
Jefferson City, MO**

Date: Saturday, November 8th, 2025

Time: Noon – 3 pm

Age: All Kids 15 and Under

***** FISHING GEAR TO BE GIVEN AWAY *****

**FIRST 100 RECEIVE A PACKAGE OF FLIES/LURES READY TO USE
200+ PIECES OF FISHING GEAR TO BE GIVEN OUT
EARN A ROD/REEL COMBO BY CLEANING UP THE PARK – FIRST 25
ASK ABOUT DETAILS AT THE ACTIVITIES TENT**

**BRING THE KIDS OUT FOR A DAY OF CONSERVATION, FISHING,
FOOD, AND FUN.**

**Fly casting and fly tying demonstrations
Fly fishing equipment available for the kids to try
We will have people to assist when needed.**

**WE ASK THAT SOMEONE ACCOMPANY EACH CHILD
PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN FISHING GEAR**

COME LEARN ABOUT MISSOURI CONSERVATION AND ENJOY A GREAT DAY!!

Logos: Conservation Foundation of Missouri Charitable Trust, Capital City Fly Fishers, JC PARKS, CONSERVATION FEDERATION OF MISSOURI EST. 1935

STREAM TEAM UPDATE

Greg and Phil Curtin, Mike Dean, Bobby Zylstra, Lenny Liebler, Damon Kempker, Lenny's friend and a Master Naturalist who leads the Boonslick Group, and I had another successful monitoring day Sunday, October 19th. I have led monitoring since 2017 and gone a few years before that when Jerry Kemple and Lee led the team. There was a 2 inch rain Saturday. Lenny sent a video of the stream Saturday afternoon and it was clear. When we arrived the next morning it was very murky Normally, we can see the bottom of our turbidity tube very clearly with 60cm of water. This was the first time it was not. We drained it to 22 before we could see the black and white pattern at the bottom of the tube. The other difference this time is Lenny, who has qualified at level 2, led the chemical tests and I shadowed him. The DO was good, PH and conductivity were all normal.

Greg, Mike and Bobby found fewer bugs than normal, but good diversity. The water quality rating is at the bottom of the good range.

We continue to see too many downed trees in the water and the once deep pools are silted in. One of the guys saw a small fish. The last time we caught fish was 5 or more years ago. Then it was basically sunfish. It has been 20 years or more ago when we caught smallmouth bass.

Damon took some great pictures to capture the action, <https://photos.app.goo.gl/QLuyG8WGsYucwyZp9>
Thanks, Damon!

Conservation News and Concerns:

Feds sold 17,000 acres in oil and gas leases across Utah. Recreation advocates worry it's 'tip of the iceberg.' <https://www.sltrib.com/news/environment/2025/10/06/feds-sell-17000-acres-oil-gas/>

The Salt Lake Tribune

Arkansas Enacts Emergency Trout Rules after Hatchery Collapse

Arkansas enacts emergency trout rules after hatchery collapse <https://www.whiterivernow.com/2025/10/16/arkansas-enacts-emergency-trout-rules-after-hatchery-collapse/> For the next 120 days, anglers must release all trout caught from Bull Shoals Dam to the Norfork Access on the White River. From there to the Highway 58 bridge at Guion, the limit is two trout daily, only one longer than 14 inches. Similar limits apply to the Norfork, Greers Ferry, and Beaver tailwaters. Trout program coordinator Christy Graham said poor water quality at the Norfork hatchery and flood damage at the Spring River hatchery have caused massive fish losses — more than 1.2 million trout in recent weeks.

Missouri Could Tighten Ammonia Limits in Water for the First Time Since 1999 <https://www.kcur.org/health/2025-10-14/missouri-ammonia-water-limits>

KCUR NPR

BUGS MATTER, TOO

Without bugs, we don't have trout. Get to know your local hatches and help

https://www.tu.org/magazine/conservation/bugs-with-mags-why-aquatic-insects-deserve-conservation-attention/?utm_source=informz&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=none&_zs=hW5wb&_zl=fBGg4

TROUT TIPS - MORE STREAMER TIPS from Orvis

<https://troutunlimited.informz.net/z/>

[cjUucD9taT00NTM1MTMwJnA9MSZ1PTQwNzAyMjM0OSZsaT01MzEyNDk3Mg/index.html](https://troutunlimited.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT00NTM1MTMwJnA9MSZ1PTQwNzAyMjM0OSZsaT01MzEyNDk3Mg/index.html)

Congress Declares Management Plans Null and Void

[Overturning Land Management Plans Could 'Jeopardize Effective and Balanced Public Land Stewardship'](#)

National Wildlife Federation

Paying Farmers for Colorado River Conservation

[Nevada Current: Paying Farmers Proves Most Cost Effective Way to Conserve Colorado River, Study Says](#)

Maven's Notebook

Locals Clash Over Swimming Spot

[On Little Piney Creek, locals clash over access to a beloved local swimming spot](#)

Arkansas Times

Mom and Kids Paddle Mississippi

[Single mom, 7 kids paddling entire Mississippi River: 'Your world begins to open up'](#)

KY3

Louisiana Pulls Plug on Coastal Projects

[Louisiana pulls the plug on another of its largest coastal projects](#)

Fox8Live

White River Contaminated by Sewage

[White River contaminated by 1.2 million gallons of raw sewage from Bull Shoals sewer failures](#)

Mountain Home Observer

Jeff Holzem

Stream Team Coordinator

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November

- November 3 – First day of the urban fishing program at McKay Park
- November 4 – Informal Gathering
- November 6 – Fly Tying with Veterans (Columbia VA Hospital)
- November 8 – 2nd Annual Kids Trout Fishing Day at McKay Park
- November 11 – Monthly Members Meeting – Guest Speaker - Sam Stewart
- November 14 – Start of the Catch and Release season at trout parks
- November 18 – Informal Gathering
- November 20 – Fly Tying with Veterans (Columbia VA Hospital)
- November 25 – Informal Gathering

December

- December 2 – Informal Gathering
- December 4 – Fly Tying with Veterans (Columbia VA Hospital)
- December 9 – Monthly Members Meeting – Christmas Party
- December 16 – Informal Gathering
- December 18 – Fly Tying with Veterans (Columbia VA Hospital)
- December 23 – Informal Gathering
- December 30 – Informal Gathering

January

- January 1 – Fly Tying with Veterans (Columbia VA Hospital)
- January 06 – Fly tying session #1
- January 13 – Fly Tying Session #2 and members meeting
- January 15 – Fly Tying with Veterans (Columbia VA Hospital)
- January 20 – Fly Tying Session #3
- January 27 – Fly Tying Session #4

February

- February 3 – Fly Tying session #5
- February 6 – Fly Tying with Veterans (Columbia VA Hospital)
- February 10 – Fly Tying session #6
- February 17 – Fly Tying session #7
- February 20 – Fly Tying with Veterans (Columbia VA Hospital)
- February 24 – Fly Tying session #8



Phil waking up early for a nice bow



Marilyn with a fish on



Browns & Bows at Taney