



MESSAGE FROM THE PREZ

It has been another exceptional month. The Capital City Fly Fishers elected a new board of directors, had another great guest speaker, raised money from a donated guide trip, formed a committee to look into updating bylaws, tied flies with veterans in Columbia, received a thank you letter for the donation made for the Conservation Leadership Corps, and have a chance to fish closer to home with the start of the winter stocking program.

Thank you to Cole Edison, Cole Counties new conservation agent, for stepping in on short notice to speak to the group. He had a lot of great information about Missouri fishing and hunting programs. Cole is one of few people that made it through the MDC program to become a conservation agent and was happy to answer all questions.

The donated guide trip by Mike Kruse, raised \$300 for the club. Thank you to Mike and to Phil Wilson for placing the winning bid. This is a nice boost to the clubs income and a great value for a full day guided trip for 2. Phil, please get some great photos to share in a future newsletter.

I think most would agree that it is so nice to have closer opportunities to trout fish! McKay Park and the other stocked lakes in the area make for new seasonal possibilities. With the good weather the next week or so, I hope you all have a chance to get out and give it a try. There will be a few photos of some of the activity at Mckay Park. Please share your photos from McKay Park or any other fishing spot.

I want to wish everyone a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving. I'm sure I will be over indulging on Turkey and all the fixing. I might even sneak out and fish for a little while. Hopefully, Mother Nature will cooperate with my plans.

*Enjoy your day,
Greg Curtin*

McKay Park Photos



Left: Prepare for the drop off! Rainbows being delivered to McKay Park.



Right: Terry Smith catches the first rainbow at McKay.



Above: John Goad Catches a LUNKER!!!

DECEMBER MEETING(It's Christmas Time)

Here is another **REMINDER** that we are having our annual Christmas Party at the Tuesday, December 13th meeting. To follow is the same information from last month's newsletter:

All club members and their family are invited to take part in the festivities. Please bring a dish, side, or dessert to share with the group. We will be at the KC Hall on Tanner Bridge Road. The same place as our regular meetings. We will begin the meal at 6 pm and go to around 7 pm.

After eating, we will have our traditional gift giving. For those who are not familiar with the gift giving process, here's how it goes:

Each person that brings a gift will be eligible to receive a gift. Gifts should be something that you yourself would want to receive. Gifts can be anything, not just fishing related. Not only have we had fly fishing related gifts, but also household items, foods, decorations, clothing, crafts, and many other items.

Gifts should be around \$10. They can be higher as long as you understand that not all gifts will have the same higher value.

Gifts should be wrapped so no can see what it is. Everyone will draw a number to determine the order of selecting gifts. Once the first person selects the next number in sequence is up. That person can select a gift off the table or have the option to steal a previously selected gift. After the second steal of a gift, that gift is frozen and can no longer be stolen. It's yours!

If your gift is stolen, you then have the option to pick something off the table or steal someone else's pick. If you draw off the table you could have that item stolen in the future as well and you will go once again.

This will go on until everyone has had a turn and ends up with a gift. Everyone is welcome to participate.

If you have any questions about the Christmas Party please let me know. If you would like to come a little early to set things up, we'll try to be there by 5:30. I'm sure there will be a lot of great stuff!!!! See you there.

FLY TYING

There will be a beginner's session and a regular session for Tuesday fly tying in January and February. The beginner's session will start at 5 pm and the regular session will be at 6 pm. Also, keep in mind that on January 10th and February 14th, we will have short members meetings in between the tying sessions. The tying sessions like everything else are being held at the KC HALL on Tanner Bridge Road in Jefferson City. First Session is January 3rd.

THE NEW BOARD

Elections for the club were held at the November meeting. Here is your Board of Directors for 2023:

President – Greg Curtin

Vice President – John Goad

Treasurer – Jack Kramer

Secretary – Mike Dean

New Editor – John Wenzlick

Board Member – Ray Bloomer (2nd year)

Board Member – Dennis Stieferman (2nd year)

Board Member – Jerry Kemple (1st year)

Board Member – Lee Kudrna (1st year)

Board Member – Michael Collins (1st year)

Board Member/Past President – Steve Peters (1st year)

Mike Jaegers is not returning as Past President, so an additional board member was elected until Greg Curtin enters that role. Please thank all past, present, and future board members for taking on leadership roles.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Membership Fees for 2023 are currently being collected. It would be appreciated if you could have your payment in before the start of the new year. Come to a meeting and make your \$15 payment or mail in a check made payable to Capital City Fly Fishers. Send the checks to:

*Jack Kramer
1731 Overlook Drive
Jefferson City, MO 65109*

Before the January newsletter goes out, we will audit the roster and determine who is unpaid and therefore will enter inactive status. Inactive status means that you will be taken off all future correspondences like the newsletter and email updates. Your right to vote on club issues will also be suspended. To be put back on the active roster, you simply need to pay your annual membership fees. Paying in a timely fashion keeps everything uninterrupted and easier to maintain. Thank you for your consideration.

MORE MCKAY



My cousin Curt and his son Lachlan came to McKay to do some fishing. Lachlan found a new gig as a net man!



STREAM TEAM UPDATE

Greg and I attend a TU meeting where we discussed fund raising with a sweepstakes. TU national has worked out all of the mechanics and legal items. They host a web site for the sweepstakes. It is set up for TU chapters, but we can enter the sweepstakes to win flies. Here is the information for the sweepstakes that is now live. Clicking on this link will take someone directly to the sweepstakes page where they can buy entry tickets.

<https://midmotu.tulocalevents.org/midmissouritroutunlimitedflies>

Mid Missouri Trout Unlimited is running an online fundraising campaign that includes a drawing for:

- 120 flies tied by our chapter members*
- A new Wheatly fly box*
- 1/2 dozen flies tied by Team USA Master's Division team member Mike Sexton (his team took home the gold for the US this year!).*

Proceeds from this drawing will help our chapter's efforts with projects to protect and restore clean water resources. Please consider entering yourself for a chance to win by following the link below.

Mid Missouri Trout Unlimited's Favorite Flies Sweepstakes

The other item to note is Doug Grove and I met with a TU staffer to talk about their Headwaters Youth program. It sponsors fly fishing clubs on college campuses. MidMO TU is trying to connect with them to get more members and to take care of the environment. What we learned as an aside is Bass Pro provides grant money for stream projects. Individual stores offer up to \$10,000 and the national offers up to \$1 million. If we want to take on a tree planting project or partner with another group, we can apply for funds.

An effort to divide Eleven Point State Park in southern Missouri was dismissed earlier this month by the Missouri Supreme Court, so the entire area will be available to the public as a par,

The Department of Natural Resources had previously purchased 4,197 acres in Oregon County with plans to create Eleven Point State Park.

In 2020, an Oregon County circuit court judge ruled that a state agency couldn't buy some key land along the Eleven Point River to create an Eleven Point State Park. Circuit Judge Steven Privette agreed with nearby landowners who sued the Department of Natural Resources to block it from acquiring 625 acres of land along the river that had previously been designated a Wild and Scenic Easement.c

We will be getting some spring like days, so I hope you can get out and catch fish at McKay.

Jeff Holzem

Stream Team Coordinator



Left: Another nice fish from McKay Park

Right: Last tag sold at Maramec Spring Park for the season



A TRIP TO CALIFORNIA AND THE KLAMATH RIVER

The day after our November meeting, I flew out to California to visit and fish. My brother was kind enough to put up with my fishing addiction. After a brief overnight stop in Berkeley, CA at my brother's home, we were off to Northern California early the next morning to fish for Steelhead in the Klamath River.

When I say we, I mean myself and my friend Alejandro Vivas who was instrumental in setting this whole expedition in motion. Alejandro has gotten heavy into fly fishing over the last few years and might have an even bigger craving for fly fishing than I do.

On the way to our destination, which was about a 5 hour drive, we made a stop for gas and a stop at a Walmart to pick up a few things. I never thought that a stop at Walmart could be so meaningful. I will talk about this more in a moment.

We met up with Adrian at the put in point. Adrian, another hardcore fly fisherman, was kind enough to provide us with the means to get downstream. Pictured here is the inflatable canoe Alejandro and I used to traverse the river and some beautiful scenery.



Admittedly, I was a little nervous about going down in a canoe because I hadn't been in one in probably 30 to 35 years and I would not consider my skill level very high. So, for me the first day was more of feeling comfortable going down the river. There were 2 or 3 moments of concern, but all in all, we did alright to make it. Unfortunately, we didn't fish as much as we would have liked and got skunked on the first day. Adrian, finished day 1 with 5 fish.

On day 2, we got started a little earlier and had a little more time to fish. Our confidence had improved and we even decided to fish from the canoe in calmer water. On his first cast of the day, Alejandro had a fish on his egg pattern. He played it for a little while, but we had some rapids coming up so I suggested that he should get the fish in. He took care of business and landed his first Steelhead ever. We didn't get a chance for a measurement, but I would say it was 16-18 inches and a lot of girth. A great first fish!

As we moved down the river we spotted an area that we both thought looked fishy. We hit our mark and hit the shore. I would say within the first few casts, Alejandro had his second fish on. I helped him net it and we shared a high five. I got back to the spot I wanted to try and after 4 or 5 casts, I had my first fish on. This guy did not want to be caught. He jumped into the air four times and made at least 3 or 4 runs before giving in. My first Steelhead. Pictured our the fish we caught at this stop.



That was our best stop of the day. We continued to fish and head towards the take out point. Alejandro, graciously allowed me to fish out of the boat during the second half of our float and I was lucky enough to get a couple more small fish to finish the day. Once again, Adrian finished with 5 or 6 fish.

For day 3, we decided to try a new section of the Klamath. As we traveled along the river, you noticed a few spots that were a little more intense. I waited at the put in as the other guys dropped off a vehicle at the take out. With a little apprehension, we decided to make the trip down river. Adrian was designated to lead and direct us along the best path. As we moved down, somehow we got ahead of Adrian and came to a split and had to decide to go left or right. Well, hindsight being 20/20, we might have chosen the wrong path. As we came to the other end where the water converged together again, we had some nasty rapids. We devised a plan to get through, but as we neared the moment of launch, the back of the canoe took off, came around towards the front, and hit just enough to tilt us. Not being fully secured, I hit the water. I never thought an \$11 Walmart life vest purchase would be so important. Since we were stopping along the way, we had waders on in the canoe. Which meant, it was vital for me to get out as quick as possible. When I went in, I had the paddle in my hand, which I believe helped me a little to steer and stay up. However, when I finally got to the edge to grab something, the rapids were pushing so much that I could not stop myself. It was going to require dropping the paddle and using two hands. After about 30 seconds in cold water I managed to get my feet under me and stand up. A life threatening situation was ended. Amazingly enough, as I looked down there was the paddle I had let go over moments earlier.

At this point, we decided we were finished for the day and just need to get to the take out. You would think all the drama was done, but about 10 to 15 minutes down the river, we came to another point of reckoning and this time Alejandro was in the water. Luckily, he had the presence to grab on to the canoe to stay up. Because of the force of the water however, he would not be able to climb back in. I was able to secure my feet under the front of the canoe and then lean back with my arms spread out to the sides to stay in. Once I gain my wits back, I paddled backwards toward shore to allow Alejandro to secure our safety.

Can you say the third time is a charm! Well, we came to the next point that required a decision. The choice was to get to shore and look over the situation. There was no way we were going down these rapids. I don't know how to specifically rate the class of rapids, but I would say we were looking at least class 3 rapids and I had no business going down them. We made our way to the opposite shoreline, finally tracked down Adrian, and got out of there.

The last day of the trip had not been fully decided, but after the experiences of day 3, we were ready to just get back home. It was a wild ride or should I say float and I will not soon forget it. Here are a couple of more photos from the trip. One is Mount Shasta.



The last event of the trip was a few hours of crab snaring. We crabbed off the Pacifica pier and I had a blast. I managed to catch 3 dungeness crab, unfortunately none of them were big enough to keep.

I want to thank my brother Scott for putting up with me, Alejandro for taking me fishing and crabbing during the week, and Adrian for having equipment for us to use on the trip. I will not be going down any major rapids any time soon, but there are a lot of other opportunities out there and I will be back to fish some more.

*It's good to be alive,
Greg Curtin*



STREAMER LOVEFEST 2023

On January 28th, 2023, the 10th Annual Streamer Lovefest will be held in Cotter, AR. It's a celebration of all things streamers and big brown trout. It will be held at Dally's Fly Shop starting at 6:30 pm. So, if you are looking for a winter outing, this might be the way to go. Some of the special tying guests they have lined up include Kelly Galloup and Mike Schmidt. They will unveil some tying classes and streamer classes in the future. Put it on your calendar now.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December

1 Fly Tying For Veterans – Columbia, MO

*13 Club Meeting – **Christmas Potluck***

15 Fly Tying For Veterans – Columbia, MO

January

3 Fly Tying Session #1

5 Fly Tying For Veterans – Columbia, MO

*10 Fly Tying Session #2 – We will have a **short members meeting** starting at 6pm before fly tying*

17 Fly Tying Session #3

19 Fly Tying For Veterans – Columbia, MO

24 Fly Tying Session #4

28 Streamer Lovefest 2023 – Dally's Ozark Fly Fishers – Cotter, AR 6:30 pm onwards

31 Fly Tying Session #5

31 Last day of catch and release at all the winter stocked lakes

February

1 First day of catch and keep for all the winter stocked lakes

2 Fly Tying For Veterans – Columbia, MO

7 Fly Tying Session #6

13 Last day of catch and release at the Trout Parks

14 Trout Parks close to prepare for opening day March 1

*14 Fly Tying Session #7 – We will have a **short members meeting** starting at 6pm before fly tying*

16 Fly Tying For Veterans – Columbia, MO

21 Fly Tying Session #8

28 Fly Tying Session #9

March

1 Opening Day of Trout Seasons

2 Fly Tying For Veterans – Columbia, MO

11 Tri-Lakes Fly Fishers Expo 2023 – Clinton, MO

14 Club Meeting

16 Fly Tying For Veterans – Columbia, MO

23-25 Sowbug Roundup – Mountain Home, AR

Capital City
Fly Fishers



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2022