



# MO Fishing

August 2008

Volume 10 No. 8

## **The August MTFA meeting program will be Thursday, August 7, 2008 at the Nature Center**

The August meeting will feature Michael Kyle's stories about giant salmon and the big bears that he encountered in Alaska. I, personally, heard a harrowing bear story from Michael's dad, Stubby, that was a very close and scary situation. We look forward to seeing you there.

Larry Wegmann  
President, MTFA

### **From the President, Larry Wegmann**

We begin another session at MSU in the later part of August. At July's meeting, Kati Green of the MSU Upward Bound program for at risk high school students made a proposal to our group to introduce fly-fishing to those interested. The club approved a two-session program. Kati suggested that the fall after school program would be a logical time to offer this option to the students. More information will be coming later.

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On the Project Healing Waters front; the Mount Vernon Gene Taylor VA Outpatient Clinic has opened a room for fly tying. The club needs to make an addendum to the previously approved Memorandum to include this facility. A new class has started in Springfield at Backcountry Outfitters. PHW appreciates their support.

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I have made a nomination that MTFA-Springfield be considered as fly fishing club of the year at the Southern Council conclave. Our list of activities and service to the fly fishing community totaling over 15 items, dating up to 14 years ago. I think we may be the best-kept secret in the southern region. Recognition of long service to the area may promote additional membership as our programs keep expanding. We can't wear out our members to be at all these activities.

Speaking of, one of the activities we have supported for ten years is the Insect-O-Rama that is scheduled for Friday, August 22 from 6:30-9:00 PM. The flyer highlights MTFA tying insects and we will need several members there to tie. If your calendar is open, we could use your help.

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At last month's meeting, a suggestion was made to have a yearly calendar of events. This will be a priority to help in the planning of all our activities and reducing conflicts that have recently occurred. I will need help on this project.

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Rod Pennington will be in Alaska this month and his trip will be a future presentation.

Hope to see you at the August meeting.

**Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association - Springfield Chapter  
Activities for August 2008**

- August 7** ..... Regular Meeting at 6 PM Springfield Nature Center
- August 18** ..... Watermelon Feast @ Memorial Park (4PM - 8PM)
- August 22** ..... Insect-O-Rama Springfield Conservation Nature  
Center (6:30 -9:00PM)
- August 28** ..... MSU class to begin

**Library News from Charles Gregory**

Hi, It's been a long time but we have new things added to the library. Larry Wegmann donated a tape #296 *Czech Nymph*, and Robbie O'Neal donated a book #141a *Advanced Custom Rod Building*. THANKS GUYS. Then, we bought 3 books and a DVD, book #142a *Go- To- Flies*, #143a *How Fish Work*, #144a *Creative Fly tying*, and last but not least DVD #326 *Nymphing by the Numbers* at a cost of \$111.42. They will be ready to check out at the next meeting, hope you'll enjoy them.

Charlie

**Email from Beverly Sweeney,**

Date: Tuesday, July 22, 2008

I thought you might want to see that it isn't just a small group in Barry County that has a problem with what is going on with the factory farms (CAFO), nor is it just a few people in Missouri. People that are in the know about what is happening are writing these articles all over America. Please read the PEW Report and get enlightened.

Beverly Sweeney Eagle Rock, MO

### **Report Targets Costs Of Factory Farming**

By Rick Weiss, Washington Post Staff Writer

Wednesday, April 30, 2008; Page A02

Factory farming takes a big, hidden toll on human health and the environment, is undermining rural America's economic stability and fails to provide the humane treatment of livestock increasingly demanded by American consumers, concludes an independent, 2 1/2 -year analysis that calls for major changes in the way corporate agriculture produces meat, milk and eggs.

The report released yesterday, sponsored by the Pew Charitable Trusts and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, finds that the "economies of scale" used to justify factory farming practices are largely an illusion, perpetuated by a failure to account for associated costs.

Among those costs are human illnesses caused by drug-resistant bacteria associated with the rampant use of antibiotics on feedlots and the degradation of land, water and air quality caused by animal waste too intensely concentrated to be neutralized by natural processes.

Several observers said the report, by experts with varying backgrounds and allegiances, is remarkable for the number of tough recommendations that survived the grueling research and review process, which participants said was politically charged and under constant pressure from powerful agricultural interests.

In the end, however, even industry representatives on the panel agreed to such controversial recommendations as a ban on the nontherapeutic use of antibiotics in farm animals -- a huge hit against veterinary pharmaceutical companies -- a phase-out of all intensive confinement systems that prevent the free movement of farm animals, and more vigorous enforcement of antitrust laws in the increasingly consolidated agricultural arena.

"At the end of his second term, President Dwight Eisenhower warned the nation about the dangers of the military-industrial complex -- an unhealthy alliance between the defense industry, the Pentagon, and their friends on Capitol Hill," wrote Robert P. Martin, executive director of the Pew Commission on Industrial Farm Animal Production, which wrote the report. "Now the agro-industrial complex -- an alliance of agricultural commodity groups, scientists at academic institutions who are paid by the industry, and their friends on Capitol Hill -- is a concern in animal food production in the 21<sup>st</sup> century."

The report, "Putting Meat on the Table: Industrial Farm Production in America," comes at a time when food, agriculture and animal welfare issues are prominent in the American psyche.

Food prices are rising faster than they have for decades. Concerns about global climate change have brought new attention to the fact that modern agriculture is responsible for about 20 percent of the nation's greenhouse-gas production. And recent meat recalls, punctuated by the release of undercover footage of cows being abused at a California slaughterhouse, have struck a chord with consumers.

The report acknowledges that the decades-long trend toward reliance on "concentrated animal feeding operations," or CAFO's, has brought some benefits, including cheaper food. In 1970, the average American

spent 4.2 percent of his or her income to buy 194 pounds of red meat and poultry annually. By 2005, typical Americans were spending 2.1 percent of their income for 221 pounds per year. But the system has brought unintended consequences. With thousands of animals kept in close quarters, diseases spread quickly. To prevent some of those outbreaks – and to spur faster growth -- factory farms routinely treat animals with antibiotics, speeding the development of drug-resistant bacteria and in some cases rendering important medications less effective in people.

It appears that the vast majority of U.S. antibiotic use is for animals, the commission noted, adding that because of the lack of oversight by the Food and Drug Administration and other agencies, even regulators can only estimate how many drugs are being given to animals.

The commission urges stronger reporting requirements for companies and a phase-out and then ban on antibiotics in farm animals except as treatments for disease, a policy already initiated in some European countries.

"That's a good recommendation. A strong recommendation," said Margaret Mellon of the Union of Concerned Scientists, which released its own report last week documenting billions of dollars in farm subsidies to factory farming operations and annual federal expenditures of \$100 million to clean up their ongoing environmental damage.

The Pew report also calls for tighter regulation of factory farm waste, finding that toxic gases and dust from animal waste are making CAFO workers and neighbors ill.

In calling for a 10-year phase-out of intensive confinement systems such as gestation crates for pigs and so-called battery cages for chickens, the commission adds impetus to recent commitments from some corporate operators to drop, gradually, those controversial practices.

"These animals can't engage in normal behavior at all," said commission member Michael Blackwell, a veterinarian and former assistant U.S. surgeon general.

Calls for comments from industry representatives were not returned.

The report also calls for implementation of a long-delayed national tracking system that would allow trace-back of diseased animals within 48 hours after a human outbreak of food-borne disease. And it calls for an end to forced feeding of poultry to produce foie gras, a delicacy that Blackwell described unpalatably as "diseased liver."

Activists said it would be up to Congress and agency officials, under public pressure, to implement some of the commission's recommendations. Congress is now considering a bill, the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act that would accomplish some of the Pew recommendations.

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Guest column: Wider public must raise voices against CAFOs  
July 19, 2008

— **By Kaye Smith, Globe guest columnist**

How many roads must a man go down in Missouri before he finds a chicken or hog-confined-animal-feeding operation? The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind and tricklin' down the streams. And how many ways will CAFOs decimate our land, air and water before the general populace wakes up and smells and tastes the pollution? The story (Globe, May 25) of a "real" farmer in Barton County whose cattle downstream from a hog CAFO are producing deformed calves should be a shocking eye-opener for the general public. The recent PEW Report, a two-year study of the effects of CAFOs, should be another wakeup call to all of us — especially our lawmakers.

Why is the public not more concerned, even outraged, about what's happening? There are three reasons:

People don't know about the problem. The public is not being told about the rapid encroachment of CAFOs because big business dominates the system, the government and the public-relations output. Too few voices are being raised to warn the public about the dangers associated with the growing numbers of CAFOs in Missouri. People are not deliberately insensitive, but they tend not to pay close attention until they are personally affected. Soon, we need to put our collective feet on the brake pedal, and hold this system's collective feet to the fire, or our land, air and water will be hopelessly polluted and we will all be personally affected.

The Department of Natural Resources, the only department in our state given the authority to permit and oversee CAFOs, keeps telling the public that everything is fine — CAFOs aren't hurting anything and the DNR is protecting our natural resources. Finally, those of us decrying the proliferation of CAFOs are just emotional nervous Nellies who think the sky is falling. The DNR's director, Doyle Childers, was quoted in the Globe on March 29 as saying: "concern about CAFOs in Southwest Missouri and other parts of the state is based on emotion rather than facts."

He's wrong! Our concern is because of the facts, not instead of the facts!

A third reason the public is not learning all it should know about CAFOs is found in the recent report by the PEW Commission on Industrial Farm Animal Production in the United States. This commission is a non-partisan, national panel of experts in the fields of public policy, veterinary medicine, public health, agriculture, animal welfare and rural culture, chaired by former Kansas Gov. John Carlin, who said, "We found that the agro-industrial complex has an overwhelmingly and undue amount of influence at most every level of government. They dominate the research, too." No wonder the public doesn't know about the routine use of feeds containing antibiotics, antimicrobials and hormones to prevent disease and induce rapid growth, the higher rates of asthma among children, the pathogens, excess hormones, excess antibiotics and heavy metals in the waste that sits untreated in the lagoon, sprayed on the ground untreated and later shows up in the water ... or the lack of adequate resources out in the field to enforce the laws and regulate CAFOs. The laws might as well not be on the books — no one is paying any attention to them, least of all the agro-industrialists — the fox is guarding the henhouse, literally. Are you worried yet, public?

How are these big agribusiness companies able to completely dominate the CAFO system? They own almost everything at every level of the CAFO system. They own the livestock, they supply the feed with all the nasty stuff in it, and they own the slaughterhouses and processing plants where independent farmers are shut out, the contracts for the sale of the livestock and the profits. They even, in many cases, own the large structures that house the livestock because they own the banks from which the owner/operators borrow millions to construct the houses. The owner/operators own the plot of land, however small, where the houses sit, the dead birds and hogs that don't survive and the manure. With apologies to Tennessee Ernie Ford, "They owe their souls to the company store."

That is how the company is able to dictate the terms of the entire CAFO system. They control the assets, the conversation, and the oversight or lack thereof and, sadly, the government from the top down — especially their two staunchest defenders — the departments of agriculture and natural resources. Show me the money, and I'll show you the influence.

It's an uphill battle, but the members of Roaring River Parks Alliance are trying to raise awareness about the dangerous pollution we are inviting by continuing to dot Missouri's landscape with more and more CAFOs. It is incomprehensible to us that we have been unable to convince public officials to even consider the possibility that we are flirting with disaster

to our land, air and water. The math is simple: CAFOs pollute — the more CAFOs, the more pollution. Ignoring or denying this fact will not make it go away.

We need help from the wider public. We are a small group of disparate individuals whose original purpose was to prevent a 65,600-chicken CAFO from being placed on a rocky hill next door to Roaring River, which empties into Table Rock Lake, and Roaring River State Park. As we began to research, our concerns widened. We have addressed the State Parks Advisory Board, held public meetings, addressed various fishermen’s organizations, spoken before community groups, filed appeals with the Missouri Administrative Hearing Commission and traveled to Jefferson City several times.

However, we believe that the best way to get the attention of those in charge is for the wider public to raise their voices. If you share our concerns, please write or call your state legislators and visit our Web site at [www.rpa.webs.com](http://www.rpa.webs.com).

We also need your financial help to continue our efforts. We are now a 501c3 organization and your tax-deductible contributions may be made to either Roaring River Parks Alliance, P.O. Box 214, Eagle Rock, MO 65641, or anonymously to Roaring River Parks Alliance, c/o Security National Bank of Southwest Missouri, P.O. Box 606, Cassville, MO 65625.

Kaye Smith is a member of the Roaring River Parks Alliance. She lives in Pierce City.  
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	<p><b>Conference Fees</b>  <b>\$95 per person (2-days)</b>  <b>\$65 per person per day</b>  <b>(Fee includes lunch)</b></p>
<p><b>September 11th &amp; 12th, 2008</b>  <b>La Quinta Inn · 3320 Range Line Rd ·</b>  <b>Joplin MO</b></p>	<p><b>Accommodation</b>  A block of rooms has been reserved at the La Quinta Inn under "Tri-state Water Resource Coalition".  <b>Call (417) 781-0500</b></p>
<p>This two-day conference will provide a forum for discussion of pressing water issues - including water supply/availability, water policies, and water research projects -in southwest Missouri, northwest Arkansas, northeast Oklahoma and southeast Kansas.</p> <p>The event is open to participants from all areas concerned with water issues, including public, private, nonprofit, and government representatives.</p> <p>By sharing information and exchanging ideas we hope to further our common goal of an adequate, safe water supply for generations to come.</p>	<p><b>Contacts</b>  <b>Loring Bullard</b>  <i>Watershed Committee of the Ozarks</i>  <b>(417) 866-1127</b></p> <p>Web Address: <a href="http://www.watershedcommittee.org">www.watershedcommittee.org</a>  <b>By Mail:</b> Watershed Committee of the Ozarks, Inc. 320 North Main Avenue Springfield, MO 65806-1208</p> <p><b>By Phone:</b> (417) 866-1127</p> <p><b>By Fax:</b> (417) 866-1918</p>

**Editor’s Note:**

If you go to the Web Address you will find lots more very useful and interesting information. Due to the length of the various articles we wanted to share this month, I had to use a fairly small font size, but I tested and with my reading glasses, it can be read. Sorry for any inconvenience, but this is vital material and worth the hunt for your magnifiers.

### **In Memoriam**

Edward "Ed" J. Kosuth, 85, of Forsyth, a long time member of the Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association. He is remembered as a generous member. He provided many materials, boxes and homemade tools for whip finishing. He was an avid reader about fishing and donated books to the club library. He is best remembered for materials he brought to club meetings purchased at yard sales.

He died July 23, 2008, at his residence. He was born Feb. 25, 1923, in Chicago, to Joseph and Anna Kosuth. He married Emilie in Chicago. He served in the Marine Corp during WWII and was a combat veteran. He was a member of the Chicago AMVETS. In 1978 he moved to Forsyth and became a member of Our Lady of the Ozarks Catholic Church and Knights of Columbus.

We will miss seeing his yellow station wagon full of fly fishing gear parked at the Pot hole with his fishing reports and stories.



## 2008MTFA -Springfield Chapter Officers

<b>President</b>	Larry Wegmann	
<b>1st Vice President</b>	Charles Gregory	833-3169
<b>2nd Vice President</b>	David Duncan	833-3562
<b>Secretary</b>	Dorothy Prugger	862-9972
<b>Treasurer</b>	Rod Pennington	883-1789

Monthly meetings at the Springfield Nature Center.

The first Thursday of the month at 6 PM for Fly tying and 7 PM for programs and business meeting.

**Education Chair** - Charlie Erickson

**Social Chair** –Simecek/Collison/Burkhart

**Newsletter Editor** – Eve Krit-Anderson,

**Librarian** - Charles Gregory

**Equipment** - John Prugger

**Web Page** - Brent Simmons

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**FFF Contact** - Howard Hawkins

**CFM/MTFA Contact** – Rod Pennington

**Public Relations** - John and Dorothy Prugger

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