



www.MTFA-Springfield.org

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MO Fishing

September 2011

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There is no meeting at the Nature Center for the month of September. It is the second of our MSU classes so anyone who wants to help out, please do. We'll see you in October.

Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association - Springfield Chapter Activities for September 2011

September 1	MSU Class - No regular meeting
September 8	MSU class
September 15	MSU class
September 22	MSU class
September 24	MSU Class Roaring River
September 25	MDC Great Outdoor Days - Bois D'arc Conservation Area

Speakers at Future Meetings:

There will not be a guest speaker this month, since there will not be a regular meeting this month at the Springfield Nature Center due to a conflict with the MSU class. Next month, (October) our speaker will be Kara Tvedt a Fisheries Management Biologist. She will provide information for Fellows Lake, and other local waters. In November, our guest speaker will be Joe Curry. He will share his passion for the Eleven Point River. Hope to see you next month if you're not helping with the MSU class.

Kim Schultz

Editor's Note:

We are short of content this month so I have shamefully visited a few member blog sites and borrowed a several gems to entertain you with.

These treasure troves are reached though links on the MTFA website **MTFA-Springfield.org**

Enjoy, and send some articles for next month. ekanderson@hotmail.com

Greetings from Ralph: Hi everyone. I've had a busy and good August. There's still a few days left as I write this, but it's almost over. Let me start this with a reminder that there will not be a meeting in September. The normal meeting date will be the second of our MSU class periods this semester. As I write this, we have 19 students signed up for the class. Six of the original twenty have dropped, one just this morning (August 24), but five others have signed up, one yesterday. So by time we start class I'm hoping we will have twenty. I sent the first 20 emails last May telling them how we grade on attendance and asked them to drop before the class began if this would be a problem. It looks like this approach may have helped. Let me thank in advance all of those who plan to help with the class. Any helpers are welcome and even if you can just be there for a meeting or two; that helps a lot.

The insect-o-rama was a success again this year. Herb Knight, Dick Deerfield, John Prugger, Lezley Chastain, Norm Collison, Joe Abrams, Charles Erickson, and I were there to tie flies for the kids. I received an email from Linda Chorce, the Nature Center Manager thanking us for our participation. She said that they were able to "click in" 825 people and that was a record. She also indicated that there were several who came in from other entrances and there was actually more than the 825. Linda also said that the event will probably be August 17 next year and hopes we will continue to be a part of the program.

Remember that our next meeting will be in October. We'll be planning the chili feed, talking about the conclave and thinking about officers and executive members to replace Joe and Warren. Keep cool and good fishing.

Ralph

Editor's Note: This one is from Ralph's Blog.

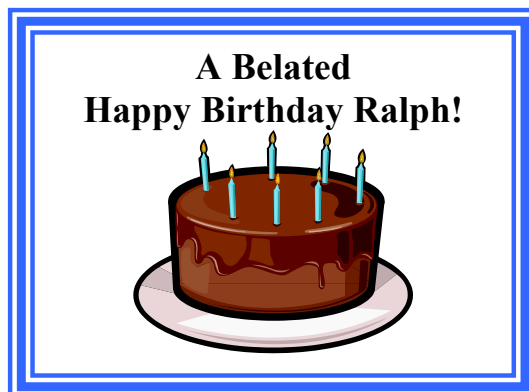
Taneycomo, What a Change by Ralph Eichholz

I had an opportunity to visit Taneycomo for the first time since the spring floods and almost constant high water of the summer. Too bad I didn't have before and after pictures. The run that I loved to fish with my soft hackles (just below the rebar hole) is entirely different. There is now a deep hole, a new bend in the stream and a completely different channel. As I approached the tree stump, I noticed a blue heron perched on the stump. With the mist still hanging over the lake it would have been a good picture, but the heron moved as I got close enough for a shot.

I started fishing a run that would drag my flies across the hole. Had some success with a couple of "classic" soft hackles. A purple and starling, an orange and partridge and a not so classic green caddis all produced in this hole. Unfortunately, I tired of it and moved down stream where the purple and starling again proved to be a good fly. As I was stopping for lunch, I paused to watch a fisherman who moved into the hole I vacated a short time before land a beautiful 21 inch buck rainbow; beautiful colors. I used the man's phone to take a picture for him with his catch while I secretly wished I had stayed a little longer. He was using a weighted rabbit strip fly.

After a good morning at the lake, I went to Dana's Barbecue and Burgers for what I think is the best burger around. Good way to celebrate my 68th birthday!!!

Posted by Ozark Fly Fisher at [11:23 AM](#)



Foundation seeks contributions to upgrade trout park

The goal is building a new viewing and fishing platform at Bennett Spring State Park by opening day of the 2012 fishing season.

LEBANON, Mo.— If you have ever wished it was easier to get to the water at Bennett Spring State Park, the Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation (MCHF) has a way to turn your wish into a reality.

One of the most popular places to fish at the park is just upstream from the stone bridge adjacent to one of the hatchery buildings operated by the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC). This site also offers a stunning view of the park’s iconic dam and waterfall. Years ago, this bank was covered with a rough concrete slurry to prevent erosion. That was an inexpensive solution to the erosion problem, but it is unattractive and difficult to negotiate on foot.

MCHF, a nonprofit citizen’s group set up to support conservation- and recreation-related projects, wants to replace the makeshift bank covering with a permanent, concrete walkway and viewing platform. As envisioned, the platform would be 72 feet long and 5 feet wide. MCHF is trying to raise \$45,000 to fund the project.

“The current situation is inconvenient and deteriorating,” said MCHF Executive Director Rick Thom. “Fixing it makes sense for a lot of reasons. Unfortunately, money for improvements at state parks is very scarce right now, even for projects with price tags as modest as this one. We looked at this situation and decided it was a case where the people who love and use the park can accomplish for themselves what government can’t do.”

Thom noted that as many as 180,000 anglers visit Bennett Spring annually. An average contribution of \$10 from just 2.5 percent of those anglers would be enough to fund the work. MCHF hopes to raise the money in time to build the platform before the trout-fishing season opener on March 1, 2012.

MCHF is accepting contributions at www.mochf.org, or by sending contributions to MCHF, PO Box 366, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0366. Donations should be marked “Bennett Spring Platform.” Donors at \$1,000 and above will receive a framed print of the 1995 Missouri Trout Stamp signed and numbered by wildlife artist Chuck Witcher. The print features a beautiful brown trout. The trout stamp of the same number is also mounted with the print. A permanent plaque at the structure will recognize donors at two levels, \$1,000 and \$5,000 and above.

-Jim Low-

Server limitations prevent the inclusion of photos as attachments to MDC News/All Outdoors media releases.

A related image of the trout print is available at <http://mdc.mo.gov/newsroom/foundation-seeks-contributions-upgrade-trout-park>

To follow MDC on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube or Flickr, or to receive RSS feeds, visit www.missouriconservation.org.

Click on the icons at the bottom of the page.

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Editor's Note: It has been way too long since we have heard from Kevin Smith, so...I went to his blog and pinched this useful article. Kevin please forgive me but you are sorely missed.

Check...Check...123..Gear Check Gear Check by Kevin Smith

When I camp overnight, extended weekend or week long, I use my trusty checklist to insure everything I intended to bring actually makes it to the campsite. I prefer throwing caution to the list rather than the wind and well.....truth be told ever since I attained that magical number of years where I'm more wise (supposedly) than handsome it's greatly reduced my frustration with forgotten items.

I split the list into four categories, then each category is split into the activities of a twenty-four hour period: Sleep, Eat, Fish, Medical and Misc.

Misc is a series of write in check boxes for items specific to the needs of a specific trip. Like, Extra long tent stakes (cause I know I'll be camping on a gravel bar).

The categories are:

1. Just changing living location for a few days: (Park campground camping)

This is "bring it if you have the space to haul it" camping. Big tents, sun shades, cooking kitchen, all the toys, and every conceivable food craving that anyone may have. Hammock, Library, Tying bench etc..... in a nut shell THE WORKS! This is the category where having a cargo load management degree and several years of experience really pays for itself.

2. Down and Dirty: (maybe a few extras)

This category also known as **Float trip gravel bar camping**.

The needs outweigh the wants. Smaller versions and much, much less of the above category. Depending on the number of days it may not involve any food that requires refrigeration (cooler).

This is the category I use most.

3. High speed low drag: (If it's not needed in the first twenty-four hours--it's not needed)

The Backpacking category. I don't use this much anymore, refer to truth be told comment in paragraph one for reason.

4. Survivor Camping: (Eat what you kill or catch and cook it on a stick or not)

Never used this one. I only added it after reading a Backpacker Magazine article on extreme backpacking and some built up frustration with category one.

Basic premise: if it don't fit into your cargo pants pockets it don't go. There are people who actually do this!

The initial list was created on a category one trip some years past. After arriving and setting up camp there was enough time left in the day to throw a line around for an hour or two and I would have done just that if my two rods weren't still standing in the corner of the man cave. So instead of fishing, I sat on the picnic table and created a checklist for camping. The working title was, "Hey dumb ass, don't forget this stuff"!

Oh well live and learn right. I'll post the list if anyone is interested in using it.....

Debi ! "Have yo seen my camping checklist?"

2011 MTFA -Springfield Chapter Officers

President	Ralph Eichholz	581-6456
President Elect	Bill Huyett	343-2591
Secretary	Dorothy Prugger	862-9972
Treasurer	Connie Erickson	890-7243
3 Year Executive Committee Member	Lezley Chastain, Dick Deerfield	
2 Year Executive Committee Member	Russ Doughty John Richerson	
1 Year Executive Committee Member	Warren Wilkerson Joe Simecek	

Monthly meetings at the Springfield Nature Center are the first Thursday of the month at 6 PM for Fly tying and 7 PM for programs and business meeting.

Committee Chairs

Program Chair – Kim Schultz
Education Chair – Ralph Eichholz
Social Chair - Connie Erickson
Newsletter Editor – Eve Krit-Anderson,
Newsletter Advisory Editor - Kim Shultz
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