



MO Fishing

July 2010

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The July meeting will be Thursday, July 1st, at the Springfield Nature Center. There will be Fly tying at 6 PM and at 7 PM programs and the business meeting will begin.

Our July guest speaker will be Tim Ripperger, a Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) Deputy director. Tim supervises the agency's Administrative Services, Design and Development, Human Resources, Outreach and Education divisions. When Charlie was teaching at Missouri Western in St. Joe he knew Tim as a friend when Tim was the Northwestern Regional Supervisor for the Dept. of Conservation. Charlie invited him to the Optimist club of St. Joe. Now Charlie has invited Tim to our club meeting to discuss the MDC and provide us with an opportunity to gain a better understanding of the MDC operation. This program will be informative helping us to better understand the MDC, mark it on your calendar and see you at Thursday's meeting.

Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association - Springfield Chapter Activities for July 2010

July 1 Regular Meeting @6 PM Springfield Nature Center

Bits and pieces from your President

The straw vote relative to us becoming a Charter FFF club taken at our June meeting was eleven-yes, and sixteen- no, and six-undecided. This information has been submitted to the Executive Committee (EC) for their information. Also, the special committee that I appointed has been dissolved due to Larry's resignation. The EC is charged with recommending a solution to the membership.

I have visited with Ed Kosuth's son, Bob, on the telephone and he gave us permission to utilize Ed's donated materials as we saw fit. He did, however, feel that we should use them for instruction or promoting fly-fishing as much as possible.

Our new materials chairman is Kim Schultz. Kim has also agreed to be our membership chair. Our new MSU class coordinator is Ralph Eichholz. I say "thank you" Kim and Ralph for taking over due to Howard and Larry's resignations. Our storage unit for all equipment and supplies for our club is Springfield Mini-Storage at 2330 E. Bennett. Kim is in charge of this and only he, John Prugger and the club president have keys. If you have any equipment supplies, etc. that belong to our club please get them to one of us.

Our speaker this month is Tim Ripperger, Deputy Director, Missouri Conservation Commission. Tim is a personal friend of mine and hopefully we will have good attendance at our July 1 meeting. Again- please read your MO-Fishing newsletter monthly.

MTFA UPDATE by Rodney Pennington

Here are just a few notes to bring you up to date on a couple of significant developments within the MTFA State Council.

At the Annual Meeting held on May 15th of this year it was approved to apply with the Internal Revenue Service for a change in the exemption status of the organization. The MTFA will apply for change to the 501c(3) tax exemption status as soon as possible. New officers must be in place and the new Treasurer is added to the accounts. A detailed explanation of the 501-c (3) exemption status may be found at the Internal Revenue website – www.irs.gov.

The Springfield Chapter has carried a general liability policy for a number of years. Our insurance carrier, Markel Insurance, has agreed to extend coverage to the other chapters also, listing the State Council as the policyholder. Victor Smedley for the Kansas City Chapter is working closely with Markel Insurance on this project and has submitted data from the KC and St. Louis chapter for rating.

The insurance carrier feels that the premium would be approximately \$450- \$500 for the entire organization. This would reduce our annual expenditure by possibly \$200. Coverage is to be identical to what the Springfield Chapter currently owns.

An interesting read is the book “Man and Wildlife” by Charles Callison. This book chronicles the history of the wildlife management practices, which led to the creation of the Conservation Federation of Missouri. The CFM represents approximately 80 clubs and 85,000 individual members. The CFM is Missouri’s affiliate to the National Wildlife Federation.

Open Letter to MTFA Membership from former President, Larry Wegmann

June 4, 2010

To: Charles Erickson, President of MTFA-Springfield

I am sorry to hear that the original approved resolution to become a Charter FFF club remains under review. The Charter designation is not as important as two other issues that have been disclosed in researching the pros and cons of the Charter issue.

The first item is the incorporation umbrella that all MTFA clubs are under. I have pointed out many times that the FFF lawyer, Jim Schramm, has advised our club to have a separate incorporation. This separate incorporation will give us immunity to litigation involving the other two clubs. It also protects the other two clubs from litigation through an action against our club. We worked hard to have MTFA-Springfield be a responsible and proactive fly fishing club. Ignoring this issue jeopardizes all members in MTFA-Springfield. Without fault, all club members could become liable and lose significant assets.

The second issue is the current 501c7 non-profit status we have as a club. My name is the only name on documents Missouri State University has regarding the PED 135 class taught there. I have requested that we change this status to the appropriate 501c3 non-profit educational status. Jim Schramm has advised our club that the proper usage of our membership funds allows for affiliation with CFM, a lobbying organization, without affecting our educational status. I have expressed that the club needs to be expedient in getting this change in order. Materials are being donated to the club for educational purposes. We are not honorable in accepting these items without a 501c3 status. I was the contact person representing MTFA-Springfield when the request for the donation receipt was made. Integrity regarding this issue has been tabled too many times. I will not be associated with a perpetuation of our non-profit status as an education entity when it is not.

The original amendment to Article II to change our status began in August and was approved by a unanimous vote in November of 2009. Article II of our By-Laws describes our membership categories. Our By-Laws state:

Article II of these By-Laws may be amended by the Executive Committee; all other amendments shall be made only by the members and shall require a favorable vote of two-thirds of the members present at any annual, monthly or special meeting of the Chapter, provided, however, that thirty days advance notice of any proposed amendment shall have been given to each member.

The perpetuation of the myth that the 2009 officers were not following established procedures in approving the change from an Affiliate to Charter is erroneous. I stand by my principles and integrity.

The high level of official involvement that I currently hold with MTFA-Springfield forces me to make a choice. Am I part of a committee that tables these critical items or do I protect my assets and integrity. My conclusion is that I cannot hold any appointed, or in the future, any elected office with MTFA-Springfield under the current status. I am resigning from my membership and education chair immediately. I am also resigning from the Executive Committee. All equipment and materials I have in my possession belonging to MTFA-Springfield will be removed from my home and stored with the equipment chairman as soon as I am physically capable.

To my fly fishing friends I must say I have the greatest respect and admiration for your commitment. We will continue to share waters together and have a lifetime memories. Many of you have heard me say, “It’s just about fishing”.

Larry Wegmann

The 2010 MTFA Fish Fry and Auction

All had a good time. We had a good turn out, about 55 people came and many brought lovely things to eat. Nature supplied wonderful cooling breezes. The editor is of the opinion that there are not only very skilled anglers in the MTFA, but some incredible cooks. Connie Erickson is a skilled party planner. The evening was flawless.

Norm and friends provided an amazing amount of golden fried potatoes, onions and delicious fresh fish. Rumor had it that Kim Schultz, man of many talents, was the primary provider of that fish. I was told it was white bass and that has given me a reason to get better at this fishing thing. Yummy.

The auction items were well set up for everyone to see and after we ate, Charles Erickson, our esteemed President proved to be a skilled auctioneer. I am told there were 26 bidders and we raised \$444.00 for our education fund. Three cheers. Be sure and come next year.



A Perfect Summer Weekend

Saturday June 19, 2010, I drove to Greer access on the Eleven Point River; I left Springfield at 6 a.m. with a light rain and a few flashes of lightning and sounds of thunder. I knew the signs, not a good start to a trip on a river. Needless to say, I drove out of rain, driving 150 miles to the east then going south from Winona. I found Kevin Smith and Jeff House getting their watercraft ready to fish for the day. We made our plans several weeks before this day, with Kevin and Jeff driving down setting camp the day before. On Friday, they fished upstream above Hwy 19 Bridge, finding a few rainbow trout that day.

The access was crowded with several groups renting canoes and floating for the day. We waited for them to depart and fished the areas not normally traveled by canoe at islands with the stream splitting into two directions. We floated and fished a three-mile section to Little Hurricane creek and camped on a gravel bar for the night. The gage height read 3.85 feet for the two days, which was up a few inches for this time of the year with the water slightly off color.

We fished slowly and steady throughout the day, the bright sun was hot with the cool waters keeping us comfortable while wet wading. The stream bank had waist high vegetation full of damselflies.



We found a few fish and considered it a good day of fishing. We stopped at a gravel bar below Little Hurricane Creek, pitched the tents, gathered some wood and fished again for a short time before preparing dinner.

I had packed some halibut and garden fresh green beans; Jeff had some fresh corn on the cob, which was roasted over a

campfire. We grilled the halibut and had more than enough to eat. We fished a short time after dinner. I saw some high clouds to the northwest and grew concerned for an overnight rain; it did not happen. I did learn when returning to Springfield the next day; a storm did hit southwest Missouri dropping two inches of water in the rain gauge.

We called it a day before 9:30 p.m. turning in for the night. The river covered in a silver fog that radiated by the moon's light. The moon was waxing, sitting in the western sky giving us light past midnight. The stream sounds whispered in our ears of sweet dreams and a better day of fishing tomorrow.

Kevin was the first to wake, I heard him at 6 a.m., going through the dry goods bag in his canoe looking for a coffee pot. The sun was not seen from behind the hills, with a persistent fog filling the valley. Here is a view from our campsite of the river.



A few spinner mayflies were seen over the water making their final journey upstream to drop eggs on the water's surface. We ate a quick breakfast, repacked our gear into our watercraft and back to the river and fishing before 7:30. Kevin and Jeff floated on down to the boulder above Mary Decker shoal to start their day. I fished the shoal just below our campsite. I managed to hand release a few rainbow trout and a goggle eye in the deep water below the shoal.

Kevin and Jeff had a terrific day in a riffle above Hurricane Creek and the shoal above the cave hole releasing more than forty rainbow trout, maybe more. I managed a dozen for the day with a fourteen-inch trout my best in length for the day. Kevin released a trout of nineteen inches with Jeff catching a plethora of trout.

I did video some of the river during the day of fishing and have it for your viewing pleasure. It can be seen on my blog at <http://ozarkfishing.blogspot.com/> with other pictures and stories. It was great to be on the best stream in Missouri and looking forward to my next trip.

Tight lines.... Kim

History of the Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association by Kim Schultz

The Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association (MTFA) was formed in 1946 by two groups of individuals from Kansas City and St. Louis, who jointly wanted to promote interest in and improve trout fishing in the state managed waters and other streams of Missouri. At the time of inception, the Kansas City group was technically apart of the St. Louis organization, as the system of chapters under State Council had not been devised. A joint Convention was held in April 1947 and officers were elected for State Council. It was during this Convention that the Kansas City and St. Louis groups were set up as Chapters.

Since that original Convention a third Chapter has been added in Springfield. On November 24, 1971, the Springfield Chapter discussed the details to organize a chapter of the Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association. They elected their first officers December 7, 1971 to serve for 1972. On December 6, 1972, the 1973 officers were elected on March 17, 1973. The officers met with members of the State Council of Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association and received a favorable vote to become a Provisional Chapter. At a State Council

meeting on May 5, 1973, the Provisional Charter was presented to our chapter. On December 4, 1973, the 1974 officers were elected. On May 4, 1974 the state Council of the Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association declared that the Provisional Charter of the Springfield Chapter be declared permanent and that the members of this chapter be welcomed as duly constituted chapter of the Association in good standing, entitled to all the privileges accorded an affiliated chapter and each member thereof. Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association serves as a group of fishermen coming together to enjoy and share the sport of fly-fishing.

The MTFA supports the Conservation Federation of Missouri and Missouri Conservation's effort to protect and restore the waterways and to educate others, and ourselves so that we may understand their successes and concerns to problems that exist and methods by which these problems can be resolved. Presently the Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association membership with its three chapters exceeds three hundred members statewide.

Bill Butts Sr. and Herb Knight were the founding members to establishing the Springfield Chapter in 1971. It was through their efforts that the new chapter was organized and they brought together individuals wanting to form a club. They waded through the process presented by the state MTFA to form the chapter by writing By-laws, finding a meeting place and generally organizing the club. Funds were limited in the beginning with pie sales going to the treasury, with raffles and other fundraisers to finance the club. Even with a meager treasury, the outings brought together families for social events and fellowship with many fishing together throughout the years.

Herb has been a member of all three chapters. Herb's brother-in-law introduced Herb to the MTFA and he joined the Kansas City Chapter in 1967 and joined the St. Louis Chapter in 1970. Herb's knowledge of the MTFA and his active participation in the MTFA is without equal. He has served two Presidential terms for the Springfield Chapter and filled all other officer positions over his many years as an active member. Herb is the corner stone to the Springfield club and is present at nearly all functions, events and class outings. Herb is the face of the club and with his knowledge the wisdom and he has served the club well.

President	Charles Erickson	890-7243
President Elect	Ralph Eichholz	343-2591
Secretary	Dorothy Prugger	862-9972
Treasurer	Rod Pennington	883-1789
3 Year Executive Committee	Russ Doughty, Kevin Smith	
2 Year Executive Committee	Bill Huyett, Kim Schultz	
1 Year Executive Committee	Crete Deerfield, Connie Erickson	

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/Materials Chair** – Kim Schultz
- Education Chair** – Ralph Eichholz
- Social Chair** - Connie Erickson
- Newsletter Editor** – Eve Krit-Anderson,
- Newsletter Advisory Editor** - Kim Schultz
- Librarian** – Kevin Smith
- Equipment/Supplies** - John Prugger
- Web Page** - Brent Simmons
- Membership Chair** – Kim Schultz
- Liaison Natl./State FFA** – Rod Pennington
- Public Relations** – Kevin Smith