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MO Fishing

The Newsletter of the Springfield Chapter of the
Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association

Formed in 1972 to serve all fishermen in the Springfield area

June 2024

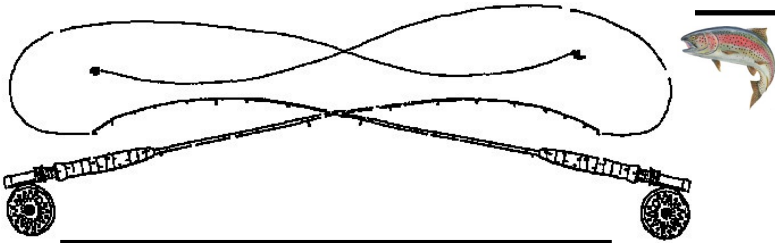
Volume 18 No.6

The June Meeting is on June 6
at 6 pm

At the Library Center in Community Room B

The annual Missouri Trout Fisherman's Association derby at Bennett Springs, held May 18 and 19 was a success. The Kansas City chapter hosted the event. The luncheon was my favorite, lots of grilled burgers, brats, and hot dogs!! On a concerning note regarding the derby, club membership was down for the second straight year. If anyone has any thoughts on how we can improve the numbers attending the derby, please let the executive committee know. I didn't receive a lot of fishing reports; however, there have been some posts on our Facebook account. I fished Bennett Springs yesterday, May 30, and saw several cicadas floating and thrashing about on the surface water, but no trout taking them. Trout must have been taking an after lunch siesta! Happy fishing!

Pat Taggart



Springfield Chapter Officers

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Chapter News:

Currently, there are only three members of the Executive Committee—John Owensby, Dick Owensby, and Bill Huyett. There is one opening for the 2-year term, and two openings for the 1-year term. If any of the membership is interested, please contact one of the above committee members, myself, or Kim Schultz.

The club has the following events in 2024:

Fly Tying - June 27

Russ Doughty will tie the Harvester Midge and tell fish stories.

Rod Pennington has penciled in the following club fishing outings:

Dates are to be determined—so get your calendars out!

July—Roaring River State Park

September—Stockton Lake for various fish species

White River Fly Fishers Expo—October 11 & 12 at the Lions Club Community Room in Branson, Missouri

Fishing Reports:

From Bob Randall:



My son, Craig, and I went to the White River below Bull Shoals Dam on May 1st. I expected a full-blown hatch of caddis flies, they don't read the calendar. The water was high and cold which affected the hatch. In turn, that affected the fishing.

During the morning, it was really slow fishing. During the afternoon it was really slow fishing. The catch of the day was 7 for me and 5 for Craig. Still, my best fish was a 21 inch brownie and his was a 20 inch bow.

At lunch, our guide who had been communicating with other guides by text told us that others were pulling out of the White and moving over to the North Fork River. We chose to stay in the White and try a different tactic. We went up to the dam and fished the outflow current. out of 8 generators were moving the water

fast. We had 11 feet of tippet below the indicators. We used a white jig and up some nice fish.



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From Pat Taggart:

May 9, 2024 booked a 1/2 day red fish trip with LoCo (Low Country) Fly Charters out of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina with Captain Mark Nutting www.locoflycharters.com 843-540-7302. Mark has +20 years guiding experience and his clientele is limited to fly fishers. Despite high winds and water levels 5' below normal, Mark did put me some red fish in front of me. He is also an experienced fly tyer. I had an awesome time "hunting" the red fish.

Here is a short chapter from Gene Hill's *A Listening Walkand other stories* book. Copyright 1985

TAKE A GROWNUP FISHING

We've got celebration day called "Take a Kid Fishing." Not a bad idea, but to my way of thinking, not near as good as a day set aside for "Take a Grownup Fishing." Kids have enough as it is: ten-speed bikes, motorcycles, their own rooms, understanding parents, designer jeans, sugarless gum, and their own hair dryers,

Grownups need someone to talk to besides people their own age so they can learn about the real world. They ought to have someone to row the boat or run the motor, younger hands to tie knots and younger eyes to read the fine print.

I think it would be an unforgettable day for a kid to take some semi-forgotten man or woman out for a day every so often. The kid would get a thrill from listening to someone who didn't say "you know" every other word. He might even learn something about ancient history—listen enthralled to stories about the dark ages when you had to learn how to thumb a bait casting reel, use real worms that didn't (for all I know) taste and smell like anise or vanilla or strawberry. What kid wouldn't thrill to reminiscences of wood boats and oars, or be charmed to use a rod made of bamboo or steel, just to see what hardships some of us used to endure?

Youngsters need someone to look after, to give them a purpose as well as a good glimpse into the future. I don't see any harm in discovering or at least giving some thought to the fact that you won't be young forever. Kids ought to appreciate that we've had to learn to whistle two or three times. The first time was with a scattering of teeth, the second was with a full set of nature's own, and then, due to the ravages of time and chewing tobacco, back to scattering again.

Kids today spend a lot of time in school learning "arts and crafts." They could teach us what they've learned about whittling. Nobody taught me how not to cut myself—I learned the hard and bloody way.

I seem to remember a time before every town in the country had pedestrian lights, when a good Scout tied a knot in his kerchief if he had the luck to be able to help someone across the street. I, for one, know plenty of streams where I'd welcome a little help getting across. In turn I'd be delighted to teach a strapping youngster how to chew tobacco; it's a lot more involved than sugarless gum and it would be something useful to aggravate his parents beside playing his stereo at peak volume.

There is a lot of opportunity here for a kid to sort of adopt an older person. Perhaps even a parent, if there's no one else handy. You can ask anyone why he should take a kid fishing and he'll give you a dozen good reasons—probably none of which include really teaching someone how to fish. You ask him if it wouldn't be a good idea for a kid to go out of his way to take someone else fishing, and you'd be lucky if you get more than a blank stare.

I'm not an anthropologist but I'd bet that there are ten cultures or peoples that are devoted to their children for every one where the middle-aged and older are cared for with more than a desultory attitude. As the politicians are fond of saying, maybe "it's time for a change."

Of course you realize by now that I'm not being very serious. But I am a *little* sincere. I know a lot of parents who would give a great deal to have one of the sprouts off the family tree really want to spend a day outdoors with the people who bore and raised him. I know we have to wait until the children pass the age where they're convinced that their parents are ignorant and uncultured, but that will eventually happen; having children of their own does a lot to hasten the process.

The people of the age usually associated with grandparentage or older are the ones that need youngsters around most of all. I'm being absolutely sincere when I suggest that it might be a wonderful thing if more to the "scouting" groups and the like made a point of visiting retirement homes and taking some of the folks there out for a day of fishing once in a while.

I've been lucky enough to have had a guide who was close to eighty on two or three occasions and I class those times as some of the most pleasant and informative I've ever had. Men with this kind of seasoning are almost always patient, knowledgeable, kind, and understanding. They are living encyclopedias and usually pretty witty and wise to boot. Being with a man of this depth and character is as good a reason to spend a day out fishing as any that I know.

I believe it was Shaw who said something to the effect that "Youth is such a wonderful thing, it is a crime to waste it on children." Well, a lot of it isn't wasted on children, since a lot of us believe that youth can be a glorious state of mind that has little or nothing to do with calendar years. Wouldn't it be a nice thing if some of the worried "young" might come to learn that?

High among my personal regrets are the times when I should have and could have gone a little bit out of my way and taken an old, old friend along for a day of fishing-and high among the things that make me feel good about myself are the times when I've done just that. Not in the idea of "Christian charity" either, but just plain good and enjoyable company, with more than the usual laughs and "reasons for just being there."

A good friend of mine in Texas started a movement a good many years ago, called Operation Orphan. And its just what it sound like. A group of men and women take children from the local orphanages on hunting and fishing outings. I know that they all have a marvelous time; it was a wonderful idea and it has done a lot of good for everyone involved. I don't know what the reverse term would be for older and neglected people, but they're "orphans" too in a very real sense. This is perhaps even more tragic in a way because they knew and gave what they could and now when they need it most, they have no one who remembers what they so much loved to do.

I KNOW it's considered "corny," but I am often touched by the common illustration of what seems to be a grandfather and his grandson together. It's usually some common pastime they're sharing and as often as not, it's fishing. But how seldom we wonder who is taking whom along? I'd like to think that it's the youngster, remembering all the good things that came his way from the old folks who live alone, who decided he'd go dig some worms or catch some shiners and get Grandpa to come along for company.

I like a few things better than fishing with a youngster. But I know that I'm a little selfish, because I'm the one who is usually having the most fun. Unfortunately it isn't typical, but I remember a man, who happened to run one of our biggest tackle companies, trout fishing along one of the better Eastern Streams. He'd done fairly well and at noon was sitting watching for any activity on the water, enjoying his lunch and just taking things easy when a boy of about ten or so came along and started fishing. The man watched him struggle with his cheap and heavy telescoping rod for a while and then called him over for a chat. The kid's eyes went immediately to the man's tackle-a fine bamboo rod, Hardy reel, the works-as any kid might say. The two chatted about fishing until the company president had a brilliant idea. He asked the young man if he'd ever used a fine rod. The boy said that he hadn't, but some day he sure would like to. The man said to take his for a while since he was tired and wanted to rest. The boy was the picture of delight as he waded out into the stream and started to cast. The president watched him for a while, remembering another boy from another time, then wrote a note and placed it on his fly box where the boy would find it, and very quietly walked out to the road, got in his car and drove away.

Come warm weather, I'm going to take a kid fishing; I hope you do too. But nothing would make me happier than to look across the cove or down the stream and see a young one help an old one remember what it was like to be young in Springtime.

Dennis Stead provided the below information regarding the upcoming White River Fly Fishers Expo—October 11 & October 12.

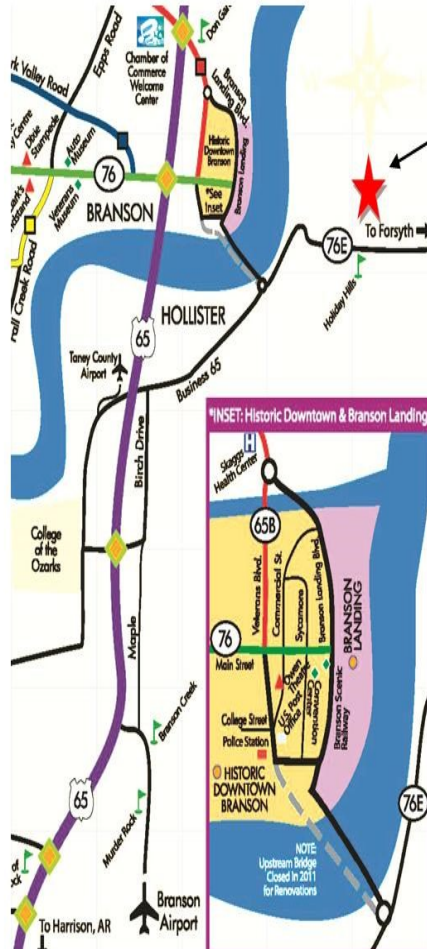


Howard and I just want to let all of you know, that the White River Fly Fishers of Branson Missouri will have their annual fly fishing expo in Branson, Missouri. The dates are October 11th and 12th.

The Lions Club has WIFI. They added Security cameras and the old lighting has been replaced with bright LED lighting. Parking will not be an issue because they purchased 8 acres for additional parking and vendors booths.

We are inviting you to join us and demonstrate your fly tying skills. Howard and I will be managing the fly tiers this year. Below is a sign-up sheet for those of you who want to join us and tie. Please fill out the form completely. Though we might have your information in our data base, it is always good to verify and update it if there are changes. Make your reservations early at your hotel or motel.

You can print, fill out and mail it to the address below, or print, fill out, scan then E-Mail it to either Howard or me. Don't forget to check off the time slot that you would like to tie.



From the Branson Landing – Take State Highway 76 East, cross over Lake Taney-como, through the roundabout heading east on Hwy 76. Around the bend heading up the hill, on you left you will see the BIG YELLOW Lions Club Community Center sign. You have arrived at the WRFF Fly Fishing Expo. Join us for a great time.

Schedule of Events:

June 06, 2024: Monthly Meeting 6PM - 9:00PM, Library Center, Community Room B

June 27, 2024: Fly Tying 6PM - 9:00PM, Library Center, Community Room B

July 4: NO MONTHLY MEETING

July 25, 2024: Fly Tying 6PM—9PM, Library Center, Community Room B

August 01, 2024: Monthly Meeting 6PM - 9:00PM, Library Center, Community Room B

August 22, 2024: Fly Tying 6PM - 9:00PM, Library Center, Community Room B

September 5, 2024: Fish Fry Mountain Springs Trout Park

September 26, 2024: Fly Tying 6PM - 9:00PM, Library Center, Community Room B

October 3, 2024: Monthly Meeting 6PM - 9:00PM, Library Center, Community Room B

October 12, 2024: Chili Feed -Lake Taneycomo Pavilion—starts at noon

October 24, 2024: Fly Tying 6PM - 9:00PM, Library Center, Community Room B

October 31, 2024: Last day of Catch and Keep Trout season in trout parks

November 7, 2024: Monthly Meeting 6PM - 9:00PM, Library Center, Community Room B

November 28, 2024: NO FLY TYING

December 5, 2024: Annual meeting and Christmas Party TBD

January 2, 2025: Monthly Meeting 6PM-9PM, Library Center Community Room B

January 23, 2025: Fly Tying 6PM-9PM, Library Center, Community Room B

February 6, 2025: Monthly Meeting 6PM-9PM Library Center, Auditorium

February 27, 2025: Fly Tying 6PM-9PM, Library Center, Community Room B

March 6, 2025: Monthly Meeting 6PM-9PM Library Center, Auditorium

March 27, 2025: Fly Tying 6PM-9PM Library Center, Community Room B

April 3, 2025: Monthly Meeting 6PM-9PM Auditorium

April 24, 2025: Fly Tying 6PM-9PM Community Room B

May 1, 2025: Monthly Meeting 6PM-9PM Community Room A

May 22, 2025: Fly Tying 6PM-9PM Community Room B



Water levels:

Roaring River water level: [National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service](#)

Taneycomo water level: [National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service](#)

Bennett Spring water level: [National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service](#)

Older newsletters through 2007 are archived here: <http://www.mtfa-springfield.org/news-events/newsletter/newsletter-archive/>

If you would like to submit an article for the MTFA newsletter, please put MTFA NL in the email subject line and send to Pat Taggart: cptaggart@sbcglobal.net

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[Membership - Missouri Trout Fisherman's Association - Springfield Chapter \(mtfa-springfield.org\)](http://www.mtfa-springfield.org)