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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

April 2025 **Volume 19 No. 4**

The March club meeting will be held at the Library Center Auditorium. The meeting date is April 3, 2025.

At the March 2025, meeting Ben Havens (fishery manager at Bennet Springs State Park) gave a very informative presentation on the status of the hatchery construction at Bennett Springs State Park. Also the MTFA state convention was held March 8, 2025, at Bennett Springs State Park. The International Sowbug Roundup in Mountain Home, Arkansas was held in late March. There was a fair number of our club's membership who attended and/or tied at this event. Additionally membership has tied at the Mo. Dept of Conservation Springfield Nature Center and the MoNASP State Archery Tournament in Branson, Missouri, at the Branson Convention Center. ***Fishing reports indicate that the white bass fishing is heating up!***

Happy fishing!

Pat Taggart

Springfield Chapter Officers

President: Pat Taggart
417-844-4178
cptaggart@sbcglobal.net

Vice-President: Christian Andrews
(417)880-7378
Christian@lumpofclay.net

Treasurer: Kim Schultz
417-860-0264
kim_schultz@sbcglobal.net

Secretary: Linda Chase
816-405-4124
lschase52@att.net

Chapter News: At the April meeting, Kyle Case (Hatchery Manager) will give a talk on the park, hatchery, and infrastructure re-build after the recent flooding.

At the May meeting club member Ron Ward will give a presentation on his recent bonefishing trip to Andros Island in the Bahamas. This should be an entertaining and informative presentation.

We need fly tiers at the following Springfield Nature Center events:

August 8 from 6:30PM til 9:00PM— Insect-O-Rama

December 30 from 1:00PM til 4:00PM

Our Chapter is partnering with the MDoC Springfield Nature Center to offer a Fly Fishing Class. See the newsletter for additional information.

Upcoming events and happenings:

I talked with Rudy Martinez at the Springfield Nature Center and he is asking for fly tiers for the following dates:

August 8 from 6:30PM til 9:00PM— Insect-O-Rama

December 30 from 1:00PM til 4:00PM

On March 18, 2025, MTFA members tied flies at the Mo. Dept. of Conservation Nature Center. We obtained one new family membership! Member tiers included: Dennis Stead, Linda Chase, Kim Schultz, Chris Diggons, and Pat Taggart.

Dennis Stead

Kim Schultz

Additional photos from the MDoC March 18, 2025, tying event:

Linda Chase

Chris Diggons

The MoNASP State Archery Tournament was held at the Branson Convention Center from March 19 thru March 22. Hundreds of middle school and high school students from across Missouri competed in this event. MTFA had a presence at this event. Members tying included: Linda Chase, Kim Schultz, Dennis Stead, Bill Huyett, and Pat Taggart.

Here is the bait to attract the attendees. Provided by Kim Schultz.

Kim Schultz action photo!

Here are some pictures of other MTFA members at the MoNASP State event.

Dennis Stead

Bill Huyett

The MTFA State meeting was held March 8, 2025, at the Bennett Springs State Park Lodge conference room. Springfield chapter attendees included Linda Chase, Kim Schultz, Rod Pennington, and Woody Woodman.

Fly tying class.

Bob Randall will be the lead in teaching the below class, with assistance provided by other chapter members.

Bob Randall provided the below to the MDoC for their newsletter offering this class.

Beginning Fly Fishing Classes

The Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association will teach you about fly fishing. There will be two classes of combined classroom and casting practice. They are designed to be taken together but if you can't attend them both you can still begin fly fishing. The first class will discuss what fly fishing is, what fish have on their menu, some basic fly-fishing points, a few knots just to get you going, and casting. The second class is more detailed about fly fishing techniques, how flies "recreate" insects and their metamorphic stages (you don't have to know their names), ethics, where to go fishing.

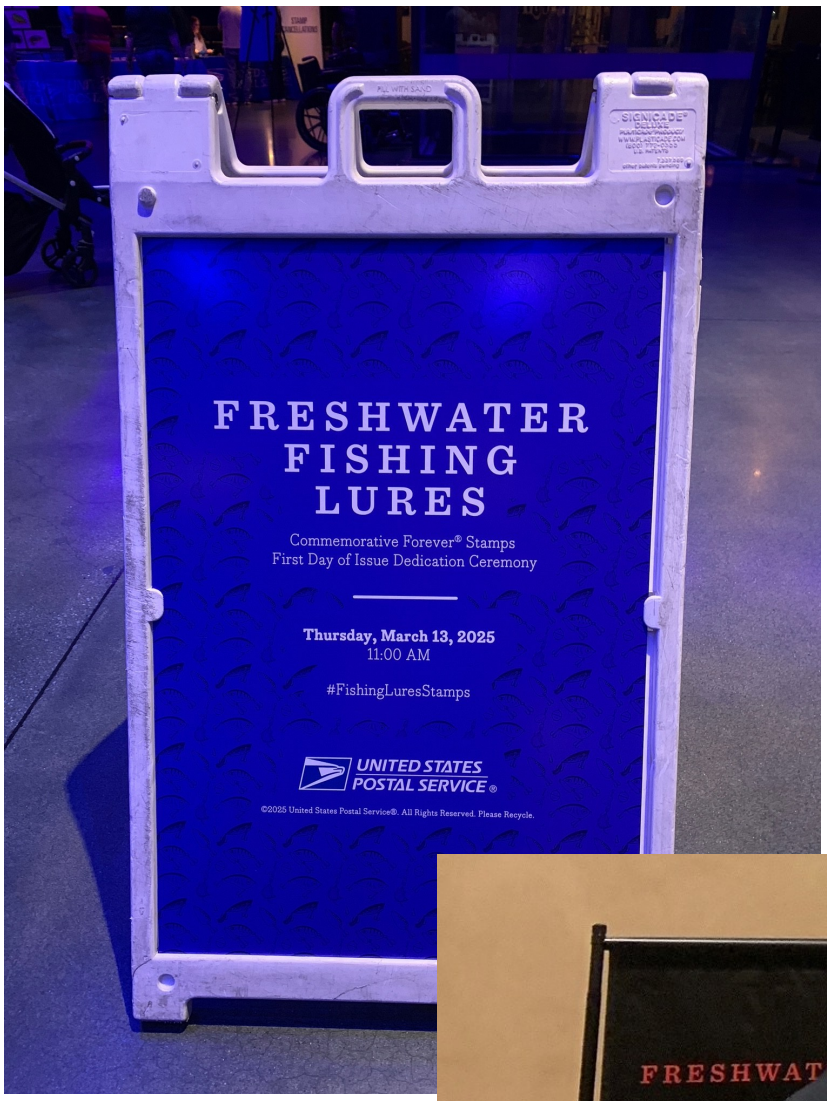
No charge. The classes are on consecutive Saturday afternoons, June 14 and 21, at the MDC -Springfield Nature Center 1-3 pm with casting practice after the class at the Living Memorial Park just down the road. Bonus: We're going catch and release fishing at the Mountain Springs Trout Park in Highlandville on the following Thursday evening and having a picnic. Bonus: we're going fishing at Roaring River State Park on Saturday, June 28.

Students under 16 years of age should be accompanied by an adult.

We furnish fly rods. You should bring a cap and sunglasses (polarized are best).

Limited number of students. Contact Bob Randall, email: bobbyleensandy@gmail.com or call: 417-224-1104

Pat Taggart was invited by the United States Postal Service to attend and give a short speech in conjunction with the issuance of the Freshwater Fishing Lures forever stamp. The roll-out of this forever stamp was held at the Bass Pro Shops Wonders of Wildlife venue. The ceremony was held on Thursday, March 8, 2025. It was an honor to represent the Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association and our local chapter.



Fishing Reports:

David Reynolds reported

Caught several crappie off our dock at LOZ. Using blue ice Bobby Garland jigs. Kept 6 out of 30 I caught. Spring is here.

This was my fishing partner!!

Fishing Reports:

From Gary Davisson

Charles,

Tell Ron Ward that I just returned from Andros, I stay at Andros South Bonefish Lodge just south of Congo Town. Been going there for 12 years. Great trip!

From Chris Diggons:

The White Bass are moving in Spring River, east of Miami. Clouser are the ticket to a bass dinner.

From Kim Schultz

March fishing in Michigan

The second week of March, I went to Michigan to fish the Pere Marquette River. I spent two days on the river with my brother Kirk. We were fishing for steelhead. I went two for three steelhead, my brother for the two days had 14 steelhead on the rod and released six by hand there were many browns and smaller trout caught that were released. there was some snow on the ground with the river temperature in the low 40s. My brother and I have fished this wild and scenic river for over fifty years.

More pictures from Kim Schultz’s March Michigan trip

Beautiful scenery!

Fishing Reports:

March 23 2023 by Kim Schultz

Rod and I were

able to get out to fish the James River. We started at Blunk access and went up stream to Taylor shoal. The water temperature was 57F with clear water. We caught a few smallmouth bass, a largemouth bass, sunfish, shad, small carp and Rod caught the only white bass. Tablerock lake was at 914.8 ft and the James River was 4.6 ft and 609 cfs. This conditions are favorable and ideal for future trips.

Kim Schultz

Christian Andrews provided the below information regarding members who would like to donate flies or tie these at the monthly fly tying sessions

Christian Andrews has challenged the members to tie flies for https://www.tieathon.org/ . He will award one of his handcrafted bobbins to the member who contributes the most 100 fly batches by March 31, 2025.

The options are:

Adams sizes #14-18

Beetles sizes #14-18

Blue Winged Olives sizes #18-22

Clouser Minnows sizes #4-8

Copper Johns sizes #12-18

Chironomids sizes #14-20

Elk Hair Caddises sizes #14-18

Foam Spiders sizes #12-18

Griffith Gnats sizes #20-22

Hare's Ear Nymphs sizes #12-16

Hoppers / Chubby Chernobyls sizes #10-14

Beadhead Eggs (trout) sizes #12-14

Pat's Rubber Legs sizes #6-12

Pheasant Tails sizes #14-18

Poppers sizes #6-14

Soft hackles sizes #14-16

Sow bugs sizes #14-18

Squishy worms / San Juan Worms sizes #10-14

Wooly Buggers sizes #8-12

Examples of these flies can be found on the Ti-A-Thon YouTube channel https://www.youtube.com/@tie-a-thon8292

Schedule of Events:

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

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

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

May 17 & 18 2025: Missouri Trout Fisherman's Association Derby at Bennett Springs

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

June 5, 2025: Monthly meeting Library Center 5:30PM—9:00PM Community Room B

June 14, 2025: Fly Fishing Class Saturday 1-3PM at Nature Center and Living Memorial Park (near Nature Center). Classes at the Nature Center and fly rod casting instruction at the park

June 21, 2025: Fly Fishing Class Saturday 1-3PM at Nature Center and Living Memorial Park (near Nature Center). Classes at the Nature Center and fly rod casting instruction at the park.

June 26, 2025: Picnic and Fishing at Mountain Springs Trout Park 5PM til dark

June 28, 2025: Roaring River State Park— fishing with the Fly Casting Class participants

July no meetings—regular meeting canceled due to July 4 and fly tying canceled due no room availability

August 7, 2025: Monthly meeting Library Center 5:30PM-9:00PM Community Room B

August 8, 2025: Insect-O-Rama Springfield Nature Center 6:30PM til 9:00PM

August 28, 2025: Fly Tying Library Center Community Room B 5:30PM-9:00PM

September 4, 2025: Monthly Meeting Library Center 5:30PM-9:00PM Community Room B

September 25, 2025: Fly Tying Library Center 5:30PM-9:00PM Community Room B

October 2, 2025: Monthly Meeting Library Center Community Room B 5:30PM-9:00PM

October 23, 2025: Fly Tying Community Library Center Room B 5:30PM-9:00PM

November 6, 2025: Monthly Library Center Meeting Room Auditorium 5:30PM-9:00PM

November—no fly tying due to Thanksgiving Day

December 4, 2025: Annual Christmas Dinner at Golden Corrall

January 2, 2026—**No Meeting—New Year's Day**

January 22, 2026: Fly Tying Library Center, Auditorium 5:30PM—9:00PM

February 5, 2026: Monthly Meeting Library Center, Community Room B 5:30PM—9:00PM

February 26, 2026: Fly Tying Library Center, Community Room B 5:30PM—9:00PM

Marcch 5, 2026: Monthly Meeting Library Center, Community Room B 5:30PM—9:00PM

March 26, 2026: Fly Tying Library Center, Community Room B 5:30PM-9:00PM

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

More about us: **MTFA Website** www.MTFA-Springfield.org

Facebook facebook.com/groups/MTFA.Springfield/

E-mail MTFA_Springfield@yahoo.com

Membership - Missouri Trout Fisherman's Association - Springfield Chapter (mtfa-springfield.org)