

July 2014



July Meeting

THURSDAY, July 24th
Queeny Park
Greensfelder Recreation Complex
550 Weidman Rd
Ballwin, MO 63011
7:00 PM

Jen Girondo



Missouri Smallmouth Bass and Goggle Eye Fisheries

Our speaker for July is Jen Girondo. Jen is a Fisheries Management Biologist working out of MDC's St. Louis Region, and is currently serving a 3 year term as MDC's Smallmouth Bass Coordinator. Her job duties include management of the game and non-game fish populations in portions of the Meramec, Huzzah, Courtois, and Bourbeuse rivers. Her background includes a B.S. in Fisheries & Wildlife from University of Missouri and a M.S. in Fisheries Science from Virginia Tech. She has been working as Fisheries Management Biologist for MDC since 2006. She can be reached at: <mailto:Jen.Girondo@mdc.mo.gov> or 573-468-3335 ext. 6604

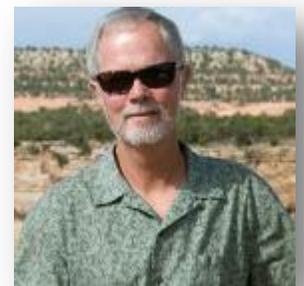
Missouri's smallmouth bass and goggle-eye fisheries are some of the highlights of fishing Ozark streams. These important and much-sought after stream species have a long history of study and management by MDC. Jen will talk about these species' population trends and aspects of their life histories in various Missouri streams that will give anglers an idea of what to expect when fishing them. She will also highlight recent studies conducted on smallmouth bass movement and harvest rates in selected Ozark streams, and discuss smallmouth and goggle-eye management strategies used in Missouri.

Hope you can join us on the 24th, see you there.

Bob Zagar

President's Message

I hope everyone had a great 4th of July holiday. Mine started off with a visit to Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery Thursday morning to bury my wife's uncle, who served in the Navy during WWII. It certainly made me appreciate the holiday a little more. He was an avid outdoorsman who loved to hunt and fish, taking every opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors. Just last fall, we were making trips to Henges to blast clay birds.



I hope you made it by our Tillis outing to partake in the food and take advantage of all the advice handed out by our Certified Casting Instructors. It was great to see so many people enjoying the evening. Thanks to all those who made it possible, from grilling, cooking, setting up, casting and everything else to made it a great event.

By the time you read this, the Current River Water Quality Monitoring Weekend will be over. If you didn't go, you missed a great weekend. Scott Darrough has made this into much more than a simple WQM, with tying classes and talks, a bbq lunch and much more. Plan on attending the next one!
See you on the river.

Bill Leslie

Casting Tip July 2014

By: Bill Armon CCI

The Curve Cast

The "Curve Cast" is used to avoid an obstacle, or to get the fly well ahead of the line, or to allow a retrieve sideways to the caster rather than directly back to the caster. The curve cast can be made using the same technique as learned in the tuck cast only on a horizontal plane. The easiest curve cast is the one that curves across the body of the caster. The cast is made on the horizontal plane, parallel to the water. The curve is produced by making a very hard stop that overpowers the cast. This will cause the end of the line to "jump" forward forming the curve. A haul to increase line speed or a well timed pull back on the rod tip will exaggerate the results.

A curve cast the curves away from the caster is a more difficult cast to perform with accuracy. One way to make this curve is to simply under power the cast. The fly is then allowed to settle on the water before the loop unrolls completely. The result is a curve in the end of the line. Another way to make this cast is to perform a back hand cast. In this case the technique is to overpower the cast using a horizontal plane on the other side of the caster's body.

There is a way to make a curve cast in the vertical plane. This involves overpowering the cast and adding a wrist and/or arm twist just as the speed up and stop is made. Lefty Kreh's rule # 3 applies here. "The line will go in the direction that the rod tip speeds up and stops during the final moments of the cast". A turn of the wrist or arm at just the right moment of the speed up and stop will cause a curve in the line that will travel to the end of the line resulting in a curve cast. However, turn the wrist too soon and the cast will fall apart. Turn the wrist too late and an arial mend is made. More on arial mends in the next casting tip.

Outings

By Malcolm Royce

Tanycomo Outing

This year's Tanycomo Outing is scheduled for September 11th thru the 14th, at Lilley's Landing Resort and Marina. There will be food at the pavilion on Saturday and we are looking for some food on Friday, just for good measure. More details are coming, but it is time to reserve your rooms. We will have a full house, but I still have rooms and beds. I will be contacting everyone about the balance due on their rooms.

The awards will be passed on again this year. The rules on who will win are determined by last year's winners. We are not having any contests, just having fun. If you are new to the club, Tanycomo is a weekend with a lot of good food, fishing and fun.

This weekend is a great way to begin your fall fishing and fish with some very good people. For more information call Malcolm Royce, 636-329-1504, or email at doorman709@sbcglobal.net.

WINTER IN JULY? NOVEMBER CATCH & RELEASE

By Russ Hill

Although it's in the mid 90's, it is time to give a heads up regarding our annual whoop-up at Bennett Spring for the opening of the winter catch and release season. (Because of the vagaries of the calendar, it's a little later this year (bring warm clothes.) Due to popular request, our buffet this year will again be at OLLIES; we have the back room reserved for just our club. Ollie said to me, "trust me." I told her the last time someone said that to me, I ended up in the Army. The dates this year are Nov. 14 -16, and optional 17th for those who are available on Mondays. (Read retired or just goof offs.) So keep these dates open! Don't schedule any birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, or any other such nonsense your partner may have in mind. We have contacted Jack at Sand Spring Resort and will be welcomed back again this year. No increase in price on the rooms, although the banquet cost is up a little. Malcolm is working on a pot luck dinner for Thursday evening for those who arrive then. ***New members:*** This is one of our major outings and is heavily attended and a great opportunity to pick up some pointers from some of the old timers, who are always willing to share. Make reservations early as the rooms go fast to the repeat attenders. Last year we had 80 some odd in attendance. (Yes, admittedly, some of our members are a little odd.)

More details and reservation forms will be in the August newsletter.

47th ANNUAL OPERATION CLEAN STREAM

By Scott Darrough

August 23, 2014 8 am - "Our 10th Anniversary" at Byrnes Mill City Park

The Trashmanian Devils and Ozark Fly Fishers will again work together on cleaning this stretch of the Big River. The last few years have seen an enthusiastic volunteer commitment on behalf of Ozark's members. Ten years ago the cleanup at this park began with one person. This year over one hundred participants are expected. If pulling tires and debris from the river does not sound fun, ask your fellow members who have attended. We have a great time.

Donuts, juice and milk will be provided in the morning. Pizza and other food will be provided for lunch along with soda and water. It is recommended that sturdy footwear be worn during this cleanup. Beach wear such as flip flops and sandals are discouraged. Remember your sunscreen and hat. Bring a change of clothes, we get dirty! Work gloves will be provided.

Once again Ozark will represent the Missouri Stream Team Program at Green Tree Park on the day of the cleanup. The Open Space Council will host their "Passport to Clean Water" www.openspacestl.org/events (11:00 am -1:30 pm) for youth ages 5-18 and their families. Over 250 kids attended this event last year. Ozark will have a booth at this event and will be tying flies on safety pins for the attending kids as well as promoting Stream Team.

If you have any questions about Operation Clean Stream, Passport to Clean Water or are interested in tying safety pin flies, contact Scott Darrough at 314-560-1335 or swdarrough@yahoo.com

Ozark Fly Fishers Database Report July 2014

Last reported membership on 6-2-2014	231
New memberships since 6-2-2014	2
Former members rejoining since 6-2-2014	<u>0</u>
Total memberships as of 7-1-2014	233

A year ago (July 1, 2013)	231
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Annual gain or (loss)	2 +0.9%
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The membership total for the beginning of the 2014 membership year is 216.

New members since June 2 are as follows:

Sean C. Ayres

Seanayres8504@gmail.com

Saint Louis, MO 63144-1142

Paul M. Denk

denkpatentlaw@earthlink.net

Saint Louis, MO 63141-8704

Mark A. Harris

Membership Committee

(Database & Directory)

A Tip from an aging Dry Fly Fisherman

By Mike Swederska Sr.

Large Mouth Bass fishing with droppers. This is not new just my take.



As a dry fly fisherman I have been known to use a dropper when needed. The reference of “dropper” is always thought of as a nymph of some sort matching the dry are another dry for what every reason at that time. Then there are the guys that use a dropper nymph for pan fish under a indicator. This is sort of like fishing worms and a cork when you were a kid. The article here is two techniques for Large Mouth Bass not pan fish. The second technique could be used for large meat eating brown and rainbow trout.

My first suggestion is a technique I have started to find success in while bass fishing using a dropper off the dry frog patterns. Casting and tying the two fly rig is not any more difficult than on a trout two fly rig with smaller flies. Now you are thinking what dropper would he be using on a frog patter for bass? Well, how about a big minnow or blue gill pattern (not for blue gill but of a blue gill) say six to eight inch size hanging under the frog as if it was about to eat it. The idea is to play the frog with its big GULLOP dinner bell sound and then wait as I have described in previous articles. Let the rings dissipate then pop the frog again. What I am looking for is the big, bass that would eat something in the ten inch range. The big boy hears the frog but then sees the big huge minnow or blue gill getting ready to eat the frog. As the fly hangs with its head pointing up at the frog as if it is ready to eat it. The LMB then ambushes the minnow or blue gill instead of wasting its energy on a tiny frog. This idea came one day while working a twelve inch largemouth bass to the net. The big boy in the five or more pound bracket was trying to eat the twelve inch bass.

My next dropper technique is when I am fishing for bass in the weeds along a shore line. I try to work the minnow patter in bare spots in between the weed growth or just inches above the weed tops. I have found that I have become more successful using a double fly rig. I again use a shiner pattern in the two inch range counting its tail. The shank does have lead rapped for weight with a cone head but this fly still will sink at a slow rate by its self. Tie of the dropper about two feet behind. The dropper is a much heavier fly and twice the size as the first. This fly has a much faster sink rate than the first. The dropper will swim close to the bottom in the clearings and just thru the top of the weeds. Between the two different sink rates the rig will find its level of sink rate due to the stripping rate. This gives you a consistent rate to work with on each cast. The bass ambush the fly as it swims thru the weeds. Ok, now let’s apply this technique to a floating minnow pattern like the Crease fly. I have also have used two crease patterns to imitate a school just over the weeds with success.

I tie my droppers on for bass as I do for trout. I described my technique at the fall Bennett Springs dry fly class last year. Tying the two tippet in this manor allows the first minnow to swim with its body and tail back and in the natural position.

Mike Swederska Sr.

Meeting Program schedule for 2014

July 24	Jen Girondo
August 28	Don Kirk – The Smokies
September 25	Mark Van Patten
October 23	Bob Krumm – Blue Quill Fly Company, Big Horn River
November	Thanksgiving - no general membership meeting
December 11	Holiday fly tying and fly exchange

Programs are held on the 4th Thursday of each month, starting at 7:00 P.M.

*Saturday

** 6:00 P.M. start time

Bob Zagar

Fly of the Month – July 2014

By Mike Ott

Evil Weevil

I spend a lot of time playing with fly patterns and materials. I love tying flies and discovering new patterns and techniques. What I also find is that I tend to fish the same flies over and over again, while relegating these new patterns to a corner of my fly box to try out when I get the chance.



Too often I never get the chance until all my usual patterns fail to produce. I now make a conscious effort to fish these new patterns just as soon as possible before I forget that I tied them.

This is a pattern that I tied for a specific trip and forgot until very recently. Too bad... It is a real winner... and has a cool name.

- Hook: Dai-Riki #135 Size 12-8
- Bead: Gold or Copper Tungsten
- Thread: Olive
- Tail: Pheasant Tail
- Ribbing: Brassie-Size Copper Ultra Wire
- Shell Back/Thorax: Brown Scud Back
- Abdomen & Thorax: SLF Brown Olive Dubbing
- Legs: Fiery Brown Goose Biots

- 1) Slide bead onto hook and secure in vise and back-fill the bead with lead wire.
- 2) Start thread behind lead and secure lead wraps, then advance thread to hook bend.
- 3) Tie in a rather full tail of pheasant tail fiber tips about as long as the body and trim excess.
- 4) Tie in copper ultra-wire ribbing so that it rides along the opposite side of the hook.
- 5) Tie in scud back on top of hook.
- 6) Dub a tapered body to the thorax - about the 2/3rd point on the hook shaft.
- 7) Pull the scud back over the top and secure at the thorax (do not trim excess), then wrap the ribbing to the thorax. Tie off there and trim excess wire.
- 8) Tie in one goose biot out each side of thorax extending about to the hook bend.
- 9) Pull the scud back toward the hook bend, and dub a full thorax to the bead.
- 10) Pull the scud back forward to the bead and tie off. Trim excess and whip finish.

As with most nymphs, fish it close to the bottom and keep it there. Let it rise up in the current at the end of the drift. This could look like a stonefly, a mayfly, or a caddis nymph.

Let the fish decide what it looks like. It would also look good in a golden stonefly color, in pure black, dark brown, or bright olive. Have fun and play with different colors of dubbing and scud back.

Tight Lines

Mike Ott

Streamside

By Tim Wade

The trout certainly have been in a good mood, don't you think?

Based on reports from other anglers and my own time on the water, fishing has been fun and very productive. Yes, the rivers and streams did increase in flow and turbidity when ambient temperatures climbed into the high 80's, but, again, these conditions did not hamper angler success rates.

Insects of every variety have been seen the past week.

Caddis, large golden stoneflies, delicate small stoneflies, green drakes, pale morning duns and green drakes are feeding the trout. This is hard to fathom considering the volume of water still flowing out of the mountains.

After watching trout rise to midges on the Wood River while taking my son-in-law out for some quality time together, it didn't take long for me to suggest we switch from the normal first week in July nymph setup to dry flies when several trout snatched bugs off the surface right at my feet.

Switching was a wise decision for sure because both of us connected shortly thereafter on fat, aggressive native cutthroat. We fished a good half mile of the river before the heat had water levels to the point wading was becoming a challenge in the late afternoon. Our best pattern was a small red Ho Candy fished right along the bank, where the current and flow was slow enough for good presentations.

With all the warm weather since July 1, it won't be long before the flows on the Shoshone, Clarks Fork of the Yellowstone, Wood and other free flowing rivers drop and clear. Hookups should just get better and better as better water conditions prevail.

The West arm of Buffalo Bill Reservoir will reopen to fishing July 15 after being closed since April first.

Expect to see a crowd on the lake and at the mouth of the North Fork when that time arrives.

Before heading to the newly opened area on the lake later this week, make sure you have your 2014 fishing license and that you have also read the regulations for Buffalo Bill and the North Fork.

Tim Wade



For Sale:

7'-10" 3 piece (1 wt.) Custom built fly rod. Blank is Sage TXL 1710-3B, guides are single foot type to minimize weight and they are wrapped with Forhan locking wrap. Up-locking Strauble nickel silver reel seat with maple insert and cigar grip.

Includes 1 wt. fly line. \$450.00

7'-6" 4 piece (3 wt.) Custom built fly rod. Blank is Sage ZXL 376-4B, single foot guides to minimize weight and wrapped with Forhan locking wrap. Up-locking Strauble nickel silver reel seat with cigar grip. \$415.00

For more information or interested in purchasing either rod, please contact Cliff Parmer at (314)-443-7987.

Thank you, and tight lines

Cliff

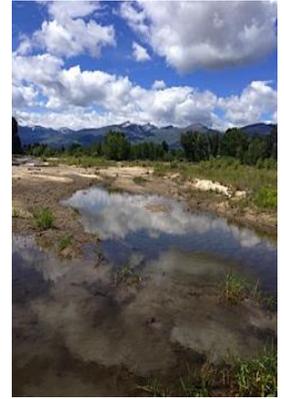


Timing is Everything

By George Bohigian

Timing is everything - "water too high, water too low, water too muddy, water too clear, barometer too low – the best answer is. "I just don't know why they are not biting" - an honest answer.

Our recent trip to Missoula Montana the last week of June was reflective of these adages. Trout brought "to the net" was spotty but the overall experience was great! Magnificent scenery and good friends made the trip memorable. I have fished most of the major streams in the West including Tim Wade's Shoshone River in Wyoming but never the rivers around Missoula Montana.



Big Sky Country

The Montana trip of 2014 marks the 40th anniversary of Montana's wild trout initiative. In 1974 the Montana conservation department quit stocking trout in many of the streams capable of natural reproduction. This covers virtually all Montana streams. The initiative was developed by Montana biologist Richard Vincent. You may want to read more in the April 2014 issue/ edition of Outdoor Life Magazine. Those predicting the demise of Montana's trout fishing industry in 1974 were quite wrong.

Forty years later fishing for wild trout is alive and vibrant. The economics of this change supports Montana's massive sports fishing economy. The Missouri Department of Conservation may want to consider a trial period of fish-and- release on Mill Creek. Currently Mill Creek contains only wild Rainbow with no stocking, limited to one 18 inch or larger fish a day. During our four days of fishing the four of us fished the Lower Clark Fork, Bitterroot, Rock Creek and Blackfoot - The Blackfoot made famous by the book and movie "A River Runs Through It." The average catch in my experience in Montana has been 6 to 10 fish a day per person, mainly Rainbow, Cut Throat and Browns of 15-17 inches some days 25 a day up to 23 inches. However, depending on the conditions one part of the river you may catch nothing another part of the same river you may catch something every five minutes. Timing (and location) is everything. Unpredictable, Isn't that why we fish? We are all looking for that amazing moment and you never know when it will happen.



Doubles!

The outing was set up by Montana Trout Outfitters <http://mttroutguides.com/>

The total cost of our trip was less than \$2000 this including \$700 airfare from St. Louis, \$900 per person for three days of fishing with guides providing the flies and five night stay at the Holiday Inn - special rate, meals, four day license and renting a SUV .The four of us did the fourth day of fishing on Rock Creek on our own. Presently a licensed guide costs in Montana \$500 a day with two people in the drift boat. Average tip per person is 15-20% i.e. \$100. Most lodges in Montana for a similar stay are over \$3000.

We used mainly # 10 yellow stoneflies as strike indicators with Bead Headed Prince Nymphs. See the recent article in Trout (Unlimited)Magazine on fishing Missoula. John Hinde who has had much experience in Missoula gave us recommendations where to eat and where to wade fish on Rock Creek.

Fishing in the West has the majestic snow peaked Rocky Mountains and the big blue sky as a background however there is a deep quietude of the Missouri Ozarks that touches the soul. In my mind : Eleven Point, Taneycomo, Current, North Fork of the White River and Mill Creek even our Trout Parks, Westover, Rock Bridge are my favorites.

I find that with either hunting or fishing 1 in 5 times the fishing or hunting is excellent, two out of five is fair and two out of the five poor but like they say, "timing is everything"

Remember David Thoreau said "Many men go fishing all of their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after."



Aspirating gastric contents to determine what the fish are eating. Rectal and CAT scan not shown.

Ozark Fly Fishers Yahoo Group

One of the benefits of being a member of the Ozark Fly Fishers is the Ozark Fly Fishers Yahoo group. The Yahoo Group is a direct line of communication with all who choose to join. Like any other club function, the more members participating the better. The OFF Yahoo group is reserved for **Members Only** to keep spam and other issues that go hand and hand with the internet under control. The Yahoo group is a great avenue to receive or post fishing reports, big and little fish pictures or thoughts and ideas on club functions as well as to seek advice from a vast wealth of knowledge on just about anything fly fishing.

To become an Ozark Fly Fishers Yahoo member is easy. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact **Mike Swederska**
Cell: (314)-799-1998 Office: (314)-645-5440. Email shur-way@sbcglobal.net

Ozark Fly Fishers Calendar of Events 2014

Coming soon!

- July 24th – General Membership Meeting – GRC Queeny Park 7:00 PM
- August 4th – Board Meeting – 7:00 PM
- August 23rd 47th Annual Operation Clean Stream
- August 28th – General Membership Meeting – GRC Queeny Park 7:00 PM
- September 8th – Board Meeting 7:00 PM
- September 11th – 14th Taneycomo Outing
- September 21st – 25th Michigan Salmon Outing - \$
- September 25th – General Membership Meeting – GRC Queeny Park 7:00 PM

\$ - Cost associated

Board of Directors

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Librarian: Scott Darrough

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Coordinator: Scott Darrough
Blue Springs: Glenn Bish
Current River: Scott Darrough
Mill Creek: Bill Leslie

Ozark Fly Fishers Objectives

Founded 1971

To promote fly fishing as the most sportsmanlike and enjoyable way of fishing and the method most consistent with the preservation and wise use of our game fish.

To practice conservation of natural resources and to support efforts for environmental quality and pollution control.

To provide advice, education, and assistance to promote the art of fly fishing.

To demonstrate applied techniques in fly fishing, tying, casting and related subjects

Ozark Fly Fishers meet at 7:00 PM on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Queeny Park Rec Center

(Unless noted differently – see Calendar)

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