

www.ozarkflyfishers.org

President's Message

Mike Swederska

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Aug 10 OFF EDITOR PO BOX 632 EUREKA MO 63025 E-MAIL: wwarren@amfam.com



I have not had any time to go fishing but I hear that it has to be one of the best years on the Upper Meramec. Ted held a float trip on June 30 and from what I am told by some of the participants it was a huge success. A great day on the water and plenty of fish to bend rods.

I know everyone that attended the June meeting is aware of the Taneycomo trip that has been donated to help raise funds for our BCA commitment. The trip is Friday Oct 26, 2007 thru Sunday night, check out on Monday morning, October 29. We have two condos reserved at Fairfield at the Meadows. Each condo has an occupancy of 2/4 max. The have kitchens, 1 king bed, 1 sleeper sofa, 2 TV/s plus much more. I am told that these condos are darn near walking distance from Tanney.

This package weekend also includes an all day guided trip, for 2 people (including lunch) Saturday, the 27th. River Run Outfitter is offering the trip. The trip will be on Tanney and from what I'm told the Brown trout will be running. Since the guide has his own boat it would not really matter if the generators are running, so that is not a factor in planning a great fishing trip!

With the condos being next to Branson, family could fish during the day, dine in Branson and take in a show in the evening. There is also plenty of shopping and other sights that would interest any non-fishing people in your group.

We will be selling raffle tickets at the meeting in July. The Board has decided to sell no more than a hundred and fifty tickets for ten bucks each. The drawing will be held at the end of the September meeting. All the money raised will be given to the Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation ear marked for the Bohigian Conservation Area.

FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS™

Conserving - Restoring - Educating Through Fly Fishing

This month our guest speaker is Dave Murphy of the CFM. He will be speaking about the Coldwater Fund and also some legislative issues of the 2007 session. He will be available for questions, so don't miss this months meeting!



Eric and the Llama *Terry Finger*

I've been thinking lately about how fly fishing has changed during the seemingly brief forty plus years that I have been fishing. My latest bout of musings started a few weeks ago when I found myself in need of a new leader snipper. I used this exigency as an excuse to drive into town and spend some time at the local fly shop, looking around at what was new and enjoying a little conversation. The magazine rack is next to the cash register, and as I was completing my snipper purchase I made my usual disparaging remark about the absurd monotony of recent magazine covers (guy holding a big fish, guy holding a big fish, guy holding a big fish, gal holding a big fish, guy holding a big fish, guy holding a big fish...). On the way home I wondered how professional designers could get away with such an astounding lack of creativity, and that led me to thinking about changes in the fly fishing business.

I'd guess that the magazine cover monotony is not so much that designers can't come up with something better, but that in the corporate world marketing trumps creativity. And perhaps the greatest change in the world of fly fishing in the last forty years has been the increasing presence of corporations. I do think that nearly all of the corporate impact has been negative, but there has been at least one improvement – the diversity and quality of tackle and fly tying materials is better now than ever before.

When I began tying flies in the 1960's obtaining good tying materials took some effort. There were few fly shops outside of major urban centers. Along the Esopus in the Catskills there were none. Folkerts' general store sold high-quality flies and tackle, but their stock of fly tying materials was pretty slim. A few large mail-order supply houses listed a reasonably full range of materials, but their inventory and quality was very inconsistent. Herter's was the largest and best known of these suppliers. Their catalog was overflowing superlatives, but opening a shipment from them always led to a surprise. On average about half of the order was marked as out of stock, but the percentage ranged from nearly 100 to less than 10. I also think that the people who handled the materials had no concept of quality grading or color. within the same shipment some materials would be exquisite while others were barely usable. I still have a good quantity of black fur and feathers from those shipments, materials dyed so hideously that my only options were to either throw them away or cover up the color in a black dye bath.

A number of smaller outlets like Rumpf's, Hille's, and Reed Tackle had much better quality control, but by the early 1970's my favorite supplier was Fireside Angler, run by Eric Leiser in Melville, New York. Eric not only really knew fly tying materials, he was also one of the most gracious people in the business. He offered a custom dying service and even now I wince a little when I think of all the small-quantity dying requests I sent his way. I never heard a complaint and his shipments usually included some extra material.

In 1973 Eric brought his knowledge together in *Fly-Tying Materials*, which I believe was the first book devoted exclusively to the procurement and preparation of tying materials. The book was also noteworthy in describing photo dying, a new technique for coloring hackle various shades of dun. In those days before genetic hackle, natural duns

were nearly impossible to find, and standard chemical dyes were not only inconsistent but required a hot bath that could easily damage delicate feathers. In photo dying, hackle is soaked in a silver nitrate solution and then developed like photo film. The process is harmless to feathers and produces beautiful shades of dun. Photo dying would be much better known today if the development of genetic hackle had not made natural duns readily available. Later, Eric pioneered the use of cold-process hair-coloring dyes in fly tying. Today, they are the most commonly used dyes for shades of dun that are not readily available in natural colors. Eric went on to write many magazine articles and an excellent series of books, including The Complete Book of Fly Tying (1977), The Book of Fly Patterns (1987), and The Dettes, A Catskill Legend (1992). He also co-authored books on caddis flies and stoneflies.

Eric is associated with several fly patterns, most notably a streamer called the Llama. He brought the fly to national attention in 1973 in an article in Fly Fisherman magazine and in Fly-Tying Materials. The fly is quite effective for trout and became popular in the northeast. Its most unusual feature is the wing of woodchuck hair. The fly also has a red floss body ribbed with gold tinsel, a tail and collar of grizzly hackle, and a painted black and white eve. Useful variations include tying the fly with a black, white, or yellow body. To tie the fly properly, select woodchuck hair of sufficient length to achieve the full four-part black-brownblack-white banding pattern and leave enough underfur in with the guard hairs to give the wing some body. I originally didn't like the look of the hair's white tips, but fish seem to have other thoughts. Perhaps the white tips mimic the flashes of a minnow's tail.

The origins of the Llama are a bit fuzzy. Even its name is a mystery; none of its ingredients come from a llama. Eric learned of the fly from a Wisconsin tier, Ray Benedict, who in turn credits Miles Tourtilloutt, a Native American of the Menomonee tribe. Mr. Tourtilloutt said he took the fly from an old English pattern book in the 1940's, an odd claim for a fly that uses hair from the North American woodchuck. No one has yet found the original reference. In Streamers and Bucktails, Joe Bates likens the Llama to the Red Abbey salmon fly, but the

latter is a North American pattern and the only feature the flies really have in common is the gold-ribbed red body, hardly a solid basis for suggesting common origins. The Llama is similar to the original Trude patterns from the western U.S. These flies do share the Llama's trait of having the hackle wound after the wing has been tied in, but their hackle is typically brown and their wings are constructed of red squirrel tail. My own guess is that Mr. Tourtilloutt developed the fly independently for fishing Wisconsin's Wolf River, perhaps taking inspiration from some red-bodied or squirrelwinged fly he saw in a book. He passed away in the 1970's, taking the true story of the fly's origin with him.

As for Eric Leiser, the last I heard he was retired and living in Florida. We have all benefited greatly from his contributions to fly tying and fishing. I wish him well.

Casting for Recovery Fundraiser

Patti Hummert - Missouri Coordinator

I would like to take this opportunity to again thank *OFF* for their continued support of *Casting for Recovery* in Missouri. Our 4th retreat will be held October 19-21 at Windrush Trout Farm. You may have seen some TV spots and a nice article in the St. Louis Post recently. The word is certainly getting out that *CFR* is providing an incredible healing experience to those breast cancer survivors who are chosen attend. My goal is to provide two retreats per year and have organized alumni activities.

To do this, I will need your support. I am currently in "full swing" fundraising for this year's retreat. Our third annual Trivia Night will be held on August 18th at 7pm, at Wild Acres Gym in Overland, on the corner of Ashby and Midland. The cost is \$15.00/pp or \$120.00 for a table of 8. Beer and wine will be available for a donation, and soda, water and light snacks will be available throughout the evening. We will also have basket raffles, 50/50 drawing, and silent auction items available.

I also currently have two separate raffles going on. One is for a beautiful hand-made quilt (full/queen size), and the other for a fly fishing rod, reel combo including a box of more than 100 flies. The tickets are \$1.00/each or 6 for \$5.00.

Please contact Wallis or myself if you are interested in a fun-filled evening of Trivia, or if you are interested in purchasing some chances on the rod combo or quilt.

Again, thank you! Please contact Brian Ellis if you would like to participate as a River Helper during the retreat on October 21st. There are a limited number of available spots.

Going Postal Over A Shred Of Evidence Bill Hale

I wish I had a reason things like this happen to me but I don't, so here goes.

In what I thought to be a timely manner after the 2007 Banquet, I sent one of my many thank you letters to "Postal Heaven." Here I am 5 months after the fact and receive this lovely non-biodegradable plastic bag with a 1 1/2 inch strip of return address and a semi canceled stamp. In bold letters, "WE CARE" appears under their logo and name. Eggs and bread mashed at Schnucks, also. happens. Anyway, I also care! The only thing I have to go by is the bottom of "live" and "au" (that would be auction). This must be a large donation for which I'm sure someone needs a letter for tax purposes, plus you deserve the praise and recognition.

If you happen to be such a person that is very forgiving, made a large donation used in the LIVE AUCTION and did not receive such a letter, please e-mail me at HALEBE@AOL.com. I'll rectify this major problem. Whoever it is, I am sincerely sorry!

Now, with the 2008 banquet looming in the headlights, let's get a reel head start (get it?) on this one. Ted Calcaterra, Joseph Aimonette, any OFF sponsoring fly shop, Board member, trusted friend or myself will gladly accept such items NOW! Did I say NOW? Yes, I Did!

Ultimately everything will come to me and be filed in the basement or attic of my home, "The Abvss"!

Somehow everything comes together with your generous donations! Members like Scott Darrough (who is also single) make our banquet fun. Scott's donations were definitely geared towards the ladies and made decent money. Everyone wins! I would like to see donations from some good friends that claim there isn't enough interest for their wives to warrant the cost of a ticket! Well, we had a great time and missed having y'all there as much as Jerry Clark! The fellowship at events like this has kept me fairly active in this club for almost 14 years. I consider everyone in our club as a friend and it's a small price to pay on my behalf! I've wasted more money feeding my addiction to our sport and don't have money streaming out of my @\$\$ # &%~! Sorry, that was the "going postal" part of my article. "Nuff Said!". Let's just have fun!

Welcome New Members

Steve & Sheri Brinkmann & Family O'Fallon, MO

Tom Faltus Florissant, MO Steve Mahfood Hartsburg, MO

Mike & Paula Utt & Family Ballwin, MO

> James Volkman St. Peters, MO

Eleven Point River Outing Update

Ted Calcaterra tcalca@hotmail.com

(636) 305-1085

The club will have its first ever trip to the Eleven Point River. It is located in the village of Alton in Oregon County in the heart of the Ozarks. It will take place on the weekend of September 7 - 9. We plan to arrive on Friday and fish both Saturday and Sunday.

Eleven Point is designated a 'National Wild and Scenic' river while offering blue-ribbon fishing for rainbow trout, as well as fantastic fishing for smallmouth, bass, goggle eye, and pickerel.

I have reserved 4 cabins that will sleep a total of 15 people. The cost is \$50 per person each night, which also includes the use of a canoe. All cabins are equipped with a full kitchen and the club will provide dinner on Saturday night. Lunch and breakfast will be on your own. For those who like more privacy, there are additional motel and cabins available, as well as camping, for a modest fee. Please let me know what your needs are and I will do my best to accommodate them.

The deadline for reserving your spot is August 15th. Checks need to be made out to Ozark Fly Fishers - note on your check "Eleven Point outing". Send to the club's PO Box. Please let me know what other questions or concerns you may have. I will coordinate meeting times and carpool options as we get closer to the date. I look forward to seeing you on the river!

Ozark Fly fishers Eleven Point Outing PO Box 19753 St. Louis, MO. 63144

Keep in mind the <u>Annual OFF Montauk Outing</u>: August 17-19!! (see last month's newsletter for details) If you've delayed making reservations or are new and are just hearing about this outing, be sure to contact me. You won't want to miss this one!!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 17-19
September 7-9
October 4-6
November 9-11
December 7-9
January 26
February TBD
Montauk State Park
Eleven Point River
FFF Conclavel Conclave
Mountain Home AR
Bennett Springs
Montauk State Park
Annual Banquet
Fly Tying (Sat afternoon)

Trout Bust Benefit

Jim Wallace

A benefit in the memory of Lt Dan Riordan will be held October 12-14, 2007. All proceeds will go to the *Lt Dan Riordan Scholarship Fund* at Vianney High School.

Lt. Dan was an avid outdoorsman who would have been a perfect fit in the Trout Busters. Dan was a boy scout who loved everything about camping - the fishing, the hikes, the dirt, the stars, the campfires, and the country music. He will definitely be with us in spirit.

Lt. Dan lost his life defending our freedom in Iraq on June 23, 2007. We at the OHA are honoring him by dedicating this and all future busts to his memory.

Please join us so that we can enjoy the fellowship of a good bust, celebrate the great outdoors, and honor Lt. Dan on October 12-14, 2007.

Location

- Montauk State Park
- OHA will secure sites for 12 tents
- http://www.mostateparks.com/montauk.htm

Food

All food for meals will be included – catering by the OHA

- Friday: dinner
- Saturday: breakfast, snacks, streamside hour, and a fish fry (providing you catch fish!)
- Sunday: breakfast

Cost

- \$40 if you stay at one of our camp sites
- \$35 if you get your own site

Contact Information

For more information or directions

- Jim Wallace 314-452-9904
- Chris Hellaman 636-861-7173

Programs Mike Krueger

Do you know what the 'Southern Council' stands for and how Ozark Fly Fishers is involved???

The August 23 meeting is your opportunity to find out how much you know and at the same time learn more. We have many new members in the club who constantly hear us talk about the Southern Council. Who or what is the Southern Council? This is your opportunity to have your questions answered.

Our featured speaker will be Larry Murphy from the Southern Council. He is the editor/webmaster of *Long Casts*, and has written several great articles about Ozark Fly Fishers promoting our club and activities. Larry is an accomplished writer and speaker. He will have a great presentation about the *FFF* Southern Council and how that group interacts and supports other organizations. The Southern Council's annual meeting is rapidly approaching in October. This would be a great time to become more informed.

Conservation - Conservation - Conservation

We are fortunate to have as a guest speaker for our September meeting Mark Van Patten from the Missouri Department of Conservation. Mark is a stream coordinator biologist.

Mark is greatly involved in the Stream Team program and will be addressing how all of us can get involved to better preserve our streams in Missouri.

More information about Mark will be in the next newsletter

Swap Meet

Ozark Fly Fishers has had in the past an annual swap meet. For some reason the swap meet was cancelled as one of our monthly gatherings. Well, *its back!* The October meeting will be your opportunity to gather all of your 'field *tested*' equipment, bring it to our October meeting and either swap it or sell it. In the past this has been a great chance to

acquire unusual gear or let someone else enjoy gear you have used.

We all know how we fishermen, oops, fisherpersons stretch the truth. Well, now is your chance to let someone else take ownership of the rod you haven't used since you caught the BIG ONE. Gather all of your stuff together - plan to swap it or sell it, at the October meeting.

Adventures on the Lower White

Brad Eilering. FFF Certified Casting Instructor, R.L.Winston Rod Company Pro Staff, Galvan Fly Reels and Rio Products.

I could hardly wait to spend my summer with grandfather, who is the mγ head instructor/quide for Cedarwood Lodge. He grew up in Scotland on the famed Spey River and came to Arkansas at the request of my father to guide his esteemed clients on the world famous White River. My dad had realized his dream of creating an exclusive flyfishing resort and school on the banks of the lower White River located between the confluence of Crooked Creek and just up from the Ranchette Access.

Last summer my grandfather taught me to cast a flyrod. He helped me to not pivot at the wrist and to accelerate smoothly to a stop. Learning to stop the flyrod on the backcast was especially hard to learn. He asked me to stop the rod once my thumb pointed up at the sky. This seemed to really help; grandpa was happy because the "loop" was nice. Since I stopped casting from the wrist and use my entire arm (shoulder, forearm and finally wrist) I can make a good cast even in the wind. We do see a lot of wind here on the White River. He says that because I cast as well as Joan Wulff, the 'First Lady of Flyfishing', I will cast a rod that bears her name. My Winston JWF is a fine 5 weight rod that is 8 ½ feet long. Even though I am 11 years old the JWF feels really nice in my hand and one day I will win a distance competition against male competitors just like Joan.

Above the fireplace in the main guest lodge is my dad's 11 pound trophy brown. He is proud

of his fish and always tells his guests "that is one of the smaller browns in this river", along with his favorite toast: "May the flyfishing gods make your dreams a reality on the next day". As for me, my next day will be spent with my grandfather on the river. The guests all look like they stepped out of a flyfishing catalog, because of everything hanging around their neck and off their hats. My dad tells me his "purpose in life" is to make people happy by taking them flyfishing; yet for me I want to catch a monster brown trout even bigger than my dad's!

Patrick fixed breakfast for us before the sunlight was in the sky. Shadow, is everyone's best friend, and sat next to me as I ate my Belgian Waffles and fresh squeezed orange juice. Shadow and Queeny are my dog friends that live at the lodge. Queeny has that name because she is "the Queen" of the lodge. She got her name because of the way she digs her little bedding areas near the fire pit and sits on her throne during the evening fireside chats. Patrick has taught me to appreciate all of "God's creations"; dogs, cats, butterflies, birds and even trout! I have learned that when people die some of them come back as animals, so animals are people just in a different form.

Shoestring Shoals is my favorite place on the whole White River and that is our destination. We have lucked out that no water is scheduled for release until late morning. With fog hovering above the water, my grandpa navigates the boat to the shore. He helps me to get out and we look at the water. He calls it "reading the water", I can read a book, yet reading water still bothers me. He thinks that if he reads the water, he will know where the fish hide. He tells me to look for "seams" or areas where the faster current meets the slow. The trout will lie in the slower water waiting for food or in my case, my Olive Wooly Bugger tied by my grandfather with just enough lead thread for the conditions. I am able to cover the water by "quartering the stream" with cross current casts then allowing my Wooly to sweep across just above the bedrock bottom with deeply cut channels that hold monster brown trout. My first trout was a beautiful wild rainbow with white tipped fins.

My grandfather has told me about the bait guides who attract the trout by feeding them canned corn. He says "corn kills fish – corn builds up in the fish's stomach until the fish dies". Corn doesn't break down fast enough to pass through the fish. I think killing fish is wrong and that all fishing should be flyfishing so that most fish can be released. I have learned that fish are my friends and I release them so other kids can catch them. My grandfather tells people "I want to fish with your kids and your kid's kids". So catch and release is important for that.

I have been getting bites, yet am not fast enough to set the hook. My grandfather tells me to set the hook with a "strip set", used primarily by salt water anglers. He says this is a quicker way to do it. The idea is to minimize slack by following the drift with the rod tip and a quick strip to set the hook.

We have worked down to the "tailout" and have released several 12"-16" rainbows using the "strip set" method. I notice that the water is beginning to flow faster, suddenly my Wooly stops, I "strip set" and the pull is so hard my grandfather has to put his hand on the rod. My arms are getting tired and my JWF is bending way over, then the fish swims right between my legs It is a monster brown! The fish is so long it overhangs my grandfather's net "Maddie vou have just landed a 28 inch monster brown Yes, the biggest trout caught by anyone in our family. Would vou like to like to mount it next to vour father's?" I saw the fear in the fish's eyes and asked my grandfather to release my friend so another kid could catch him some lucky day.....

Termed "The most spectacular area on the White" the Cedarwood Lodge property was originally purchased by Governor Bill Clinton. Sold to the CEO of State Farm Insurance, Bill Kolb, and became an exclusive private flyfishing lodge and school in 1997. Now you can enjoy the all the comfort of this exclusive lodge. The property includes five well appointed, rustic log style buildings with a covered boat dock and a separate on water casting platform. All buildings include modern conveniences for a most comfortable stay. The property can sleep up to 24 people in 12 private rooms. All meals are provided in the

spacious dining room that holds 12 people per seating. There is a large lounge with an open log fire and large gently arched windows with panoramic views out over the river. The main lodge can be rented to house a group of 12 in 6 private rooms.

For those of the party who might not be so keen on fishing there are plenty of other things to do in the area. Horseback riding, Buffalo River canoe trips, Eagle Nesting Tours, and visit a few of the old towns for a days shopping. Rush is a historic mining town that is near by for those who like to "Day Trip".

If you prefer a more peaceful pace there are plenty of scenic walks nearby or you can spend an afternoon relaxing in the sun by the river and observing the wildlife.

"Adventures on the Lower White" is loosely based on the folklore of Cedarwood Lodge and the wonderful staff who await your visit. Cedarwood Lodge does welcome children Maddie's age and up. The Lodge is available for corporate retreats, smaller groups, couples or individuals wishing to visit and flyfish the majestic waters of the Lower White River.

Contact Cedarwood Lodge, Flippin, AR for retreat, lodging and guide reservations: 870-453-7785 www.cedarwoodslodge.com

Calling all 'Techo Wizards'

A meeting will be held August 15 to consider recommendations for our website. We would like to extend an invitation to those that have expertise in this arena – the club could use your input and technical assistance! Although we are all anglers, there are rumors that some actually have professional (or near professional!) expertise in the web-world.

If you are interested in participating in this initial forum, please contact:

Communications Director, Wallis W Warren wwarren@amfam.com

MO Conservation Heritage Foundation Coldwater Fund / BCA Mill Creek Lou Juranas

We want to thank the following individuals for their enthusiasm in coldwater conservation projects, and their MCHF contribution to help in the preservation of stream and creek habitat in Missouri by funding the Bohigian Conservation Area (BCA) on Mill Creek.

Contributions received as of this month's newsletter have been mailed, and MCHF will be mailing letters of acknowledgement to the following donors:

Support level:

Al Jarosik Marian Graham Steve Brinkmann Arnold Morrison G. A. Smith

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Bob Temper
Walter & Joan Kratzer
One Anonymous donor

Silver level (+\$250): Jeff Agnew

Gold level (+\$500): David Haas

Platinum level (+\$1,000):

Current Member contributions: \$1,790.00 Ozark Fly Fishers contributions: \$1,790.00*

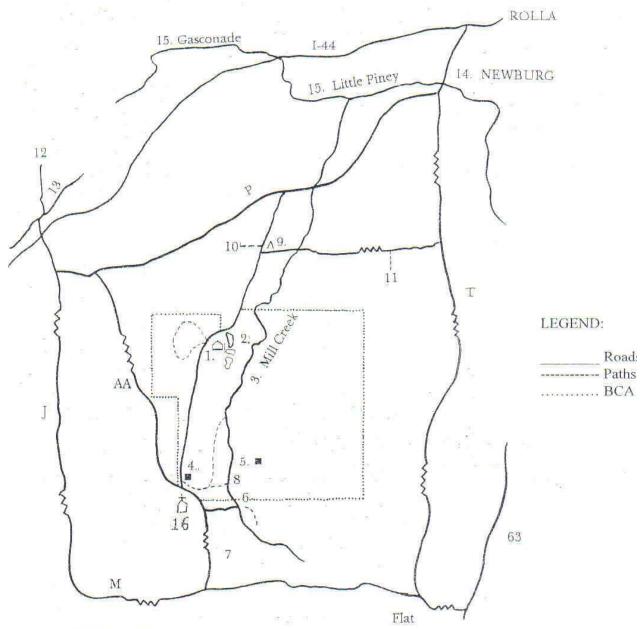
Remaining Pledge to be made \$11,420.00

* In accord with the Board Meeting minutes, the Treasurer will start making the Ozark Fly Fishers matching contribution after 11 September 2007, at which time the CD will have maturity and be available for withdrawal without penalty.

BOHIGIAN CONSERVATION AREA (BCA)

N

AND SURROUNDING AREAS



Map not drawn to scale.

- 1. House
- 2. Ponds
- 3. Mill Creek
- 4. Old Barn
- 5. Little House
- 6. Wilken Spring
- 7. Yelton Spring
- 8. Hudgen's Spring
- 9. Mill Creek Picnic Area
- 10. Cave
- 11. Natural Bridge
- 12. Onyx Cave
- 13. Slaughter Sink Hole
- 14. Newburg, MO
- 15. Other Streams
- 16. ME Church

Executive Director CFM, Dave Murphy to address Ozark Fly Fishers

Dave Murphy, the Executive Director of the Conservation Federation of Missouri will be the featured speaker at the July 26 meeting. The meeting will be held at Queeny Park Rec Plex at 7pm.

Dave will present a recap of the 2007 Missouri Legislative Session and discuss the Coldwater Fund along with his new seat on the Streams Committee of the Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation. He will also address the proposed Missouri summit in 2008, hosted by CFM, which will consider the future of Missouri's natural resources. Dave plans to be with throughout the evening and will be available to listen to all of your concerns, ideas and strategize with us. Ozark has been listed as one of CFM's most important affiliate organizations so your opinion counts. Be sure and attend this most important and informative meeting.

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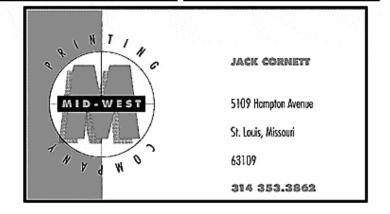
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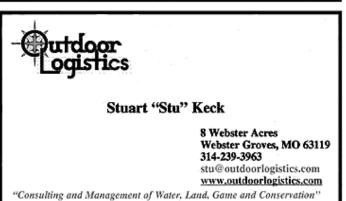
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NEWSLETTER: Wallis W Warren

OZARK FLY FISHERS PROGRAM CALENDAR

JULY 26 MONTHLY MEETING: Dave Murphy, CFM Queeny Park

AUGUST 23 MONTHLY MEETING: Larry Murphy, FFF Southern Council

SEPTEMBER 27 MONTHLY MEETING: Mark Van Patten MDC – Stream Team

OCTOBER 25 MONTHLY MEETING: Swap Meet