



May 2008

MDC's Go Fish Program

In a continuing effort to bring the citizens of Missouri closer to the fish, forest and wildlife that surrounds them, the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) introduced the GO FISH! angler education program. The program has introduced or reintroduced children to the wonderful world of fishing and encourages a greater appreciation of conservation. GO FISH! targets children ages 8-15 and provides instruction with fishing opportunities. The GO FISH! program is designed to take kids from first-timers to veteran anglers who understand the interactions of people with the aquatic environment.

GO FISH! is a comprehensive fishing program based on the "Seven Hooks." Each "Hook" is a separate program covering different angling skills and techniques. A "Hook" lasts two hours—30 minutes of fishing instruction followed by 90 minutes of fishing.

Young anglers are encouraged to participate in all "Seven Hooks." Upon completion of each "Hook," anglers will receive a free piece of fishing equipment and information to help with their future fishing adventures. There is no charge to participate in the "Seven Hooks," but you must register for each "Hook" you wish to attend and a parent or guardian must stay with the angler at all times.

GO FISH! relies heavily upon dedicated volunteers who are enthusiastic about teaching young anglers all about fishing. Volunteers are trained by MDC and provided with everything needed to teach anglers the "Seven Hooks." :

Once young anglers are hooked on fishing, it is critical that they continue to fish. Mentoring new anglers greatly increases the chance of transforming a new angler into a life-long angler. Mentors such as family members, conservation groups, boys/girls clubs, schools, YMCA and neighborhood associations will ensure fishing adventures for new anglers.

For more information and to review the "Seven Hooks" go to the Missouri Department of Conservation site <http://www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/stlouis/educate/gofish.htm> or for more information contact Denise Otto at Denise.Otto@mdc.mo.gov. **Denise will be the speaker at the May General Membership Meeting. The meeting will be held in the Webster Groves Rec Complex . See article elsewhere in this newsletter.**



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Ozark Fly Fishers meet the fourth Thursday of each month at Queeny Park. 550 Weidman Road – Community Room – 7:00 PM.

The newsletter is published eleven times each year and can be found on the club's website or is mailed to members who request a mailing. The deadline for submitting an article is the 11th day of each month. Articles for the November December newsletter must be submitted by November 11th. Newsletter articles can be submitted by sending to Al Bourisaw, 4731 Brawley Court, St. Louis, MO 63128 or e-mailed to troutal@att



Federation of Fly Fishers

Conserving ~ Restoring ~ Education Through Fly Fishing

President's Message

by Mike Swederska, Sr.



This is a great time to belong to the Ozark Fly Fishers with everything that the club has been involved in. The first item I would like to report on is the meeting that took place on Blue Springs Creek (BSC). In a nutshell, Stream Team #31 – Ozark Fly Fishers has taken on the responsibility of maintaining the public accesses and doing water quality monitoring on the creek. The water quality and bug monitoring will be done at four sites that were selected by MDC biologist Jennifer Guyot and OFF members. MDC Resource Forester, Nate Forbes submitted

the application for the club to adopt the four public accesses. We have also volunteered to help rid the riparian area of Chinese Privet. The forester wants this none native bush eliminated so that our indigenes plants can come back. Jennifer also talked about the possibility of helping with some trout habitat, but that would be down the road.

The next thing to report on is the Yahoo web site. The Group is going well with almost 50 members joining. Members that are already on know, it is a great way for the club to reach out with what is happening at the moment in OFF. If you are not in the Yahoo Group, please join. I am finding that there is a plethora of questions being asked by our members. The meeting location change was posted within minutes of the change taking place.

The board has voted to purchase a digital camera to be used at tying demonstrations and education classes. As an example, When Mr. Clouser–visited, we used Bob Temper's personal video camera to project Mr. Clouser's tying on the big screen. Member Bill Leslie, a professional photographer, has done the leg work and has recommended a purchase for the club. He has also agreed to start taking photographs at our meetings and outings. Something this club has needed for a long time.

On May 4th we had the annual OFF-F-C BBQ. As always, we had a great turn out and lots of fun. The weather was just perfect giving me the opportunity to tie flies outside until the sun got too hot. Then I moved inside with the rest of the tiers. There was plenty of food and good stuff in the raffle provided by member Ted Lammert. **THANK YOU TED!!!** When I was down on BSC, I had the pleasure of meeting a gentleman who walked up the creek after seeing my truck at the access. I was not happy at having my space invaded on such a little creek, but the gentleman said he was there to meet me not there to fish. We talked for some time about the creek, ourselves and the club. I told him about the upcoming Sunday affair and that he should come by and check out the club. Not only did he and his wife come to the affair, but they joined the club and he won the big raffle prize – a new Sage rod.

At the last board meeting, we were presented information about Project Healing Waters by two members, Clint Carpenter and James Volkman. We will also have Mr. Ken Morrow from Project Healing Waters give a very short presentation at the next general meeting. He will answer questions for about 15 minutes. As you already know, MDC Denise Otto will be our guest speaker discussing the Go Fish program. The club has many more projects in the works and as they evolve I will mention them in my message. As the number one goal this year for OFF "Make it fun to be a member", I think with the list of item that I have mentioned, we are off to a good start.

Thank you Ted Lammert for a great outing on May 4th.

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Bennett Springs Kids Fishing Day

Over 700 kids fished for 3,900 fish (100 lunkers) between the hatchery outlet and the Whistle Bridge. Bob Temper and Joe Aimonette help kids tie flies.



Mill Creek Improvements Weathers the Floods

by George Bohigian

The Mill Creek trout habitat enhancements of sky hooks, rip rap and wing dams that were built by a coalition of the Ozark Fly Fishers, other Missouri trout clubs and the Missouri Department of Conservation have weathered the recent record setting floods.

Nick Girono, Fisheries Management Biologist, Missouri Department of Conservation, responsible for the project, addressed the Ozark Fly Fishers monthly meeting on April 24. He reviewed the present and pending future improvements.

I visited Mill Creek a few days later on Saturday April 26. The water level was about a foot above normal with a flow of 120 CFPS (see formula below), with the water slightly off to dingy. During flood stage in March, the estimated flow rate of Mill Creek was 3,000 CFPS. The adjoining fields were flooded (flood plains). This was an historic high never seen before.

On my recent visit all structures were in operation and in good condition-except one sky hook. There are now good pools and new spots. A great job was done. I did catch two overhanging trees and one submersed log. The flies were retrieved, however, I caught no fish; no one else was on the stream. The conditions were bright sunlight and 60-degree air temperature with 58-degree water temp. I fished and took pictures for 30 minutes. The "debris line" of leaves and twigs caught in the branches of trees and bushes where the water had risen over the banks stood 8-10 feet above normal water levels! See photos.

This project is a great example in what volunteerism combined with private, state and federal co-operation can do. It gives one pride - only in America. The MDC plan is to do another project down stream in July and complete the third and final portion the following year.

Mill Creek is a gem and nature can be tough - so you can think philosophically and scientifically like the Greeks of old, but build like the ancient Romans to last a thousand years. Maybe one day we will have trout as long as your leg!

Formula:

Mill Creek was 40 feet wide and averaged one foot deep. I dropped a leaf on the surface of the water and it traveled 20 feet in 8 seconds (about 3 feet per second) hence $3 \times 40 = 120$ CFPS at that point in the creek.

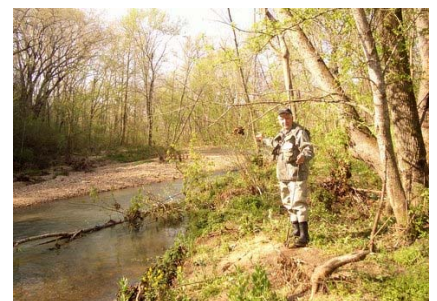
The flow rate is in units volume per unit time, usually cubic meters per second, or cubic feet per second. The equation for flow is $Q = W \times D \times V$ where:

Q = flow rate W = width D = depth V = velocity

Assuming the measurements are done in feet, this gives the units of $\text{ft} \times \text{ft} \times \text{ft/s}$ which gives cubic feet per second. This requires measurements of the width of the river, depth of the river, and water velocity measurements. This is typically done at many points perpendicularly across a creek or river. The depth at each point is taken, water velocity measured, and width of each section is known (half of distance to next measurement point). Using the equation above, these numbers are multiplied together. Then the values from all the individual measurements are added together for the total flow.

PS. A great site to visit about the surrounding area of Mill Creek can be found at :

<http://www.rollanet.org/~conorw/cwome/article1.htm>



Dr. George Bohigian and pictures of Mill Creek.

DON'T MISS IT! Youth Conclave 2008

by Kevin Miquelon

Mark your calendars right now for the Wayne & Catherine Moore Youth program for 2008 at the Southern Council Conclave – Saturday, October 4th in Mountain Home, Arkansas at the fabled waters of Dry Run Creek.

Ozark Fly Fishers will be the hosting chapter for the youth program this coming fall. If you are a parent, a grandparent, a great grandparent, an uncle, an aunt, or in any size, shape or form connected to a child under the age of 16, you should seriously consider taking them to the Southern Council Conclave this coming fall. It is one of the most amazing places to fish for trout (rainbows, browns, brook, and cutthroats) on planet earth. There are reported to be more than 10,000 trout per mile. The requirements: 1) Flies only 2) Barbless Hooks only 3) Catch and Release only 4) Must be under 16 or handicapped. We will have all of the gear, stream-helpers (guides), lunch provided, and lots of other fun and giveaways for the kids. More details and sign-up forms will be available in the future. This is an absolutely amazing experience for the kids and you will have memories for you and them that will last a lifetime.

If you would like to get involved in getting kids hooked for life, we are looking for helpers and any donations that might be available (primarily in the form of giveaways for the kids – flies, gear, and other things). Please contact Kevin Miquelon for more information.

May Meeting

By Mike Krueger

The next meeting is scheduled for May 22. Denise Otto is the guest speaker. Denise was just recently rewarded for all her hard work by being asked to join the MDC as a full time employee. Congratulations Denise. The GO FISH program is a great program Denise has developed to ensure the next generation of fisherpersons, have to be politically correct. All of us know that more women and girls are getting the rods out and learning how much fun fishing can be. I am looking forward to seeing the entire GO FISH program. **The meeting will be held at The WEBSTER GROVES REC COMPLEX 33 EAST GLENDALE in Webster Groves.** If you need directions, map quest or feel free to contact me. The usual start time will be 7 pm, but don't forget we will have a fly tier before the meeting. So come early and pick up a new technique.

May 9, 2008

Swiss Ban Catch-and-Release

Yesterday [Fly Talk's](#) Kirk Deeter turned up a classic example of animal rights activism run wild. In Switzerland, new legislation designed to improve animal welfare includes a provision that "it is not permitted to go fishing with the 'intention' to release the fish." That caught the eye of anglers all over Europe, who want the Swiss to change the legislation before it is too late. "It's believed that the legislation could affect as many as 275,000 anglers in Switzerland, who generate around 30 million Euros in annual tackle sales. EFTTA (European Fishing Tackle Trade Association) acting president, Pierangelo Zanetta, said: ['EFTTA does not believe that forcing anglers to kill their catches is either good for nature or for recreational sport fishing'](#) - which makes a significant financial contribution to the EU economy."




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Malcolm Royce with a beautiful Current River rainbow. Caught on Tuesday, May 6th with green a Caddis larva or something like that #18.

Win Your Own ClackaCraft Drift Boat

The Federation of Fly Fishers Southern Council and ClackaCraft Drift Boats are giving you a chance to have your very own drift boat. The FFF Southern Council is holding a raffle to give away a 16' Low Profile ClackaCraft Drift Boat. The package includes: Deluxe Trailer, Anchor System, Anchor, Rope, Oars, Two Knee Brace, Level Floors Front and Rear, and Built-in Rod Holders. Tickets are available through Larry Carli or on-line at www.southern-councilfff.org for \$10.00 each or 3 for \$25.00. The raffle drawing will be held on Saturday evening, October 4, 2008 in Mountain Home, Arkansas during the Conclave Awards Banquet.



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Mike Lawson

**MO Conservation Heritage Foundation (MCHF)
Cold Water Fund / Mill Creek**

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.

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

Bronze level (+\$100):

Bruce D. Burleigh

Current Member contributions:	\$6,578.00
Ozark Fly Fishers contributions:	\$6,578.00

Remaining Pledge to be made	\$1,844.00
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**Special Welcome to the
New Members**

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Mel Bagley
St. Louis, MO | Wayne A. Breer
Ballwin, MO |
| Greg Deien
Red Bud, IL | Mark England
O'Fallon, MO |
| John G. Freeman
St. Ann, MO | Mike King
St. Louis, MO |
| Wilbur Gearhart
Ballwin, MO | Clinton Guebert
Red Bud, IL |
| Don Helfers & Family
Chesterfield, MO | |
| Jack L. & Joan Dennis
New Haven, MO | |
| Mike Green & Family
Fenton, MO | |
| Andy Patton
Brentwood, MO | Chris Kennedy
St. Charles, MO |
| Maripat Monterubio & Family
Chesterfield, MO | |
| Jim Morrison
Wentzville, MO | Paul McCaffery
St. Louis, MO |
| Greg & Mary Prestemon
O'Fallon, MO | |
| Karen Riek
St. Louis, MO | Ken Pdedrson
Chesterfield, MO |
| Bill Reed
Warson Woods, MO | Bari Rowan
St. Louis, MO |

Ozark Fly Fishers - Stream Team #31

Report: Blue Springs Creek by Bob Temper

Introduction: OFF Stream Team #31 selected Blue Springs Creek and Mill Creek as streams with which we could participate toward the overall improvement of the streams. Preliminary discussions were held with the MDC Fisheries Biologists about how to get started.

Summary: An on-stream meeting was held with OFF Stream Team # 31, MDC Fisheries Biologist Jennifer Guyot and MDC Resource Forester, Nate Forbes, at Blue Springs Creek. The current health of the watershed, stream condition and potential improvements were discussed and a walking tour of the middle section of the stream was included in the day's activities.

Results: There were four areas of support that were identified that Ozark Fly Fishers Stream Team #31 could participate in to improve Blue Springs Creek: An application was submitted for Ozark Fly Fishers to adopt Blue Springs Creek Access and parking areas under the MDC Adopt an Access Program. Stream Team #31 will adopt Blue Springs Creek and participate in regularly scheduled water quality monitoring and reporting.

Honeysuckle and Chinese Privet were identified as invasive and non natural plants that need to be controlled in the watershed to permit natural species to properly populate the area to help protect the stream.

Some structures can be added selectively to assist in fish habitat improvement. Permits will be required for these structures under the 404 permitting process.

Conclusion: Stream Team #31 will schedule a meeting in the near future to organize plans for work projects to meet the goals resulting from this meeting.

Discussion:

On Friday May 2, 2008 representatives of OFF Stream Team #31 met with MDC Fisheries Biologist Jennifer Guyot at Blue Springs Creek. The objective of that meeting was to determine what we could do as a stream team to improve the stream. Jennifer invited MDC Resource Forester Nate Forbes to the meeting. Nate also works out of the Sullivan office and lives in Bourbon, MO. Jennifer and Nate reviewed their analysis of the current conditions of the area and proposed a few ideas. OFF members familiar with the stream offered additional suggestions.

Since the stream is near populated vicinity, it is a favorite recreational destination for locals and some areas receive excessive trash. OFF Stream Team #31 submitted an application to adopt the Blue Springs Creek Access and the parking areas associated with the stream. There is basically one major point where the stream meets the Meramec River and three smaller parking locations along the stream. Regularly scheduled trash pickup by OFF members will assist in preserving the natural area. Trash bags can be disposed of in the Sullivan MDC Office dumpster. All clean up activities will be reported using Stream Team Forms. Signs will be installed by MDC indicating OFF Stream Team #31 as the organization adopting the site. The signs will be designed to allow application of our 4" X 6" OFF logo on the sign in addition to the engraved wording.

Three areas have been identified for ongoing water quality monitoring. Two of the areas, one in the top section and another in the middle section of the stream, were marked by placing tape on a tree trunk to identify the riffle to be



continued from page 6

used for the monitoring. A third spot in the lower section of the stream will be identified and marked at another time. OFF has a few members already qualified to do the monitoring and several additional members are scheduled for the introductory class at the end of May. This should provide enough manpower to do monitoring at all three sites a minimum of quarterly. All reports will be submitted to the Stream Team Program for inclusion in the state data system. Stream Team #31 will coordinate monitoring programs of the members to provide appropriate coverage without being a burden on any one person.

MDC Resource Forester, Nate Forbes, reviewed the status of the growth along the stream corridor pointing out the growing concern of the spread of invasive Honeysuckle and Chinese Privet. These plants are choking out and preventing the kind of native trees and under forest shrubs that would benefit the stream. He identified a method called "cut stump" treatment to control the plants. This plan would call for Nate or one of his employees to identify the plants to be cut off near the ground and then an application of appropriate chemical would be applied to the exposed cut stump to kill the root system in a way that will not be detrimental to the surrounding vegetation or the stream. This is only to be done under MDC Forestry Division supervision. OFF Stream Team will coordinate with Nate for appropriate work project dates. Typically this is best done in late summer or early fall. Removal of these invasive plants will then allow more natural plants to inhabit the area and provide better balance. Some plantings may be scheduled in the future to assist the start of a good balance of plants.

For the most part, Blue Springs Creek has good stream structure. A few areas could benefit from some additional fish habitat structure. There are also a few areas that could use some channel adjustment to improve the flow and reduce the wide shallow riffles that tend to warm the water. There is a potential for starting the flow at the spring with cooler water by providing a better mix of water than the overflow from the impoundment. That would be a project initiated by MDC with the private camp that owns the property on which the spring is located. The lower section of the stream is marginally cold enough to support trout through the summer.

Small structures could be installed that would help fish habitat without the use of heavy equipment. Jennifer reviewed some of these techniques with us using pictures from a book titled "Trout Stream Therapy" by Robert L. Hunt. One of the techniques that looked particularly appropriate for this stream was a half log section stabilized with rebar to provide habitat without impacting the channel. There are some stream channel techniques that were identified using small to medium size logs that would help create some plunge pools and maintain a decent channel depth. Any of this activity will have to be developed through MDC and submitted to the Corps of Engineers under the 404 permit process for fish habitat improvement. Jennifer will develop the plan and submit applications for approval. OFF Stream Team #31 will provide labor to implement these plans when they are approved. The size of the materials would be appropriate for OFF members to do by hand without the need for large equipment.

Attendees;

MDC - Jennifer Guyot and Nate Forbes

Ozark Fly Fishers - Al Bourisaw, Marty King, Mike Swederska, Vickey Swederska, Bob Temper, and Wallis Warren

Women's Outings Update

by Ted Calcaterra


On Sunday May 18th, we will have our annual Women's Outing. This year the destination will be Maramec Springs located just over an hour outside of St. Louis. We will meet at 8am at the very back end of the parking lot. Just like previous years, we will have casting instruction available along with local experts to help our members make the day a memorable experience. There will be lunch provided along with snacks and drinks throughout the day. I encourage all our female members to try and attend this outing. Please contact me at tcalca@hotmail.com by May 11th so that I can get an accurate count of those attending. I hope to see you on the water.

Nice WindRush Rainbow taken by




Mark Keating at WindRush

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NAME TAGS

by Kevin Miquelon

Don't forget to wear your OFF Name Badge at every meeting! It is very helpful, with more than three hundred members, for people to give a quick glance at your name badge and see who you are. Lots of effort goes into making the badges and bringing them to the meetings, so please make an effort to wear yours. If you don't have one (basically, you lost yours), then let us know and we will replace it. Dave Haas has a number of name badges in his possession and would like for everyone to "grab and go" with them. Also, bonus tickets to the raffle are an added incentive if you are wearing your name badge. Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

Mark your calendar
for the BBQ and
casting meeting on
June 26th




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**DUANE AND MARLENE
HADA BENEFIT**

Duane and Marlene Hada are not just well-known identities in the fly fishing community in this part of the world, they are truly "great people". When Marlene was found to be facing a serious battle with breast cancer, their approach was typically quiet and low-key. Now their friends and admirers in the fly fishing community have come together to put together a tremendous benefit raffle to assist the Hada's in their fight. We hope you will dig deep into your pockets to help as well. If you know the Hada's your generosity would be automatic, but the organizers have put together some great prizes, worth more than \$20,000, to entice people to open their wallets wider. Grand prize is a guided fishing trip with Dave and Emily Whitlock, lodging at the White River Inn, and a Sage rod, reel and line. Other prizes include a boat, waders, art work, guided trips, etc. Go to <http://www.southerncouncilfff.org> and read John Berry's article for more information. Tickets are \$20 each or 6 tickets for \$100. All proceeds will go to the Marlene and Duane Hada Fund. For tickets contact Don Schaap at dschaap@agent.shelterinsurance.com or mail check to Don Schaap, Shelter Insurance 122 S. Waldron Rd Suite B, Fort Smith, AR 72903. For more information contact Al Bourisaw, 314.487.2120 or troutal@att.net.

The Education Front

By Malcolm Royce

It's nice to know that someone's out there looking for great programs we can be involved with. At the April meeting, I was handed an article on Project Healing Waters, which is a fly fishing program for veterans. I'm sorry that I don't remember who it was, but thank you. This is a program which seems like a great for our club. Then two new guys, Clinton Carpenter and Jim Zolkman, had already gone out on their own, called Project Healing Waters, and started the ball rolling. They brought all the information to our last Board meeting and we are now going through a mountain of paperwork. There will be more information after our next Board meeting...stay tuned!

We are already planning the fall 2008/Winter 2009 class schedule which is coming together. Bob Zagar is doing a great job setting up tying classes at Powder Valley for members. If there are fly's you want to learn, let Bob know.

As we plan for next fall, I want to let you know that we are looking to have Stream Team training for members. Remember though, that a lot of the real work for Stream Team is just good old hard work. This won't need any training for most of you. Please get involved. We need your help on our work days.

The winter/spring programs are now history and to all of you who helped, many thanks. I want to thank Brian Ellis and all the certified casters for all your hard work. The casters we have are great ambassadors for our club. I would also like to thank Larry, Al, Steve, Joe and Bob. You made my job so much easier and were always there for me.

Again, I'm always looking for ideas, so if you find something we can do – get it to me.

“Fortunately, fishing has almost no public entertainment value!”

- James Michener (1946)



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE RECONVENING:

by Kevin Miquelon


The Membership Committee is meeting on June 10th, 2008 @ 7 P.M. at Powder Valley Conservation Area – Classroom B. If you have an interest, please contact the Membership Director Kevin Miquelon at kmiquelon@charter.net or 314-753-3644.



Bust'n For A Cure June 13-14-15

by Jim Wallace

The Troutbuster's are pleased to announce they are planning a bust (fishing outing) to benefit the Casting for Recovery program sponsored by the Ozark Flyfishers. The outing will be June 13-14-15 at the Eagles Nest Camp Ground, just outside Montauk State Park. We invite all members to come join us for a week-end of fishing and fun. The cost for the weekend will be \$40 per person. This will include a camp site for two nights, a barbeque on Friday night, breakfast on Saturday and Sunday mornings and a fish fry on Saturday night (providing you harvest your dinner). You can tent camp with us or make your own sleeping arrangements. Please make your plans to join us on the stream now. Everyone is welcome as this is a family fun event. If you have any questions please contact Jim Wallace at 314-452-9904.



Random Thoughts by Ty Livingston – May 2008 Don't Throw The Dog Out With The Bathwater

I probably should not admit this, but I am partial to dogs. My friends that love cats might get mad at me, but I hope that they can see past my bent and still accept me for who I am. I was attacked by a wild farm cat as a child in Iowa and I have deep psychological scars...but that is a whole 'nother story. I am a dog lover...always have been...always will be...and I am highly partial to big dogs and bird dogs. Of all the dogs I have owned over the years, a German Shorthair named Hemmingway dredges up some of the fondest memories for me. He was both a bird chaser and loved to fish (at least hang out with me while I fished...he had a hard time holding a fly rod). He and I had one distinct difference – he liked cats...but I never held it against him. What a creature he was. And, I don't think he held it against me.

Now that I have been "waxing poetic", I am going to shift gears and kick into random rant mode. I had my grandkids over the other evening and we went for a short walk around the neighborhood. In the cul de sac near my house, there was one of those plastic grocery store bags that people wear as a glove when cleaning up after man's best friend (to scoopa da pooopa), so kindly filled with animal waste and tied up, **AND LEFT BY THE LAMPOST!** So, I picked it up and carried it home and tossed it in my trash. A few days later, I was out for a walk and, lo and behold, what did I see but the same sight on the street at the edge of our storm sewer. I picked up that one and put it in the trash too. Now, what in the hell am I to make of this? Is this dog crap, or more aptly put, **CRAPPY DOG OWNERS?!** This is one of those things that really force you to downgrade your opinion of humanity. These folks were conscientious enough to scoop the poop, but despicable enough to toss that plastic bag of trash into the public domain. If I catch one of them doing it there will be hell to pay. This feisty old fart will pull out his spray-can of "whoop-ass" out and settle it the old fashioned way. I can damn guarantee you that. This random act of idiocy by a fellow pet owner is like the thief that steals your wallet, removes the cash and mails your driver's license back to you. I just don't get it.

The next complaint I have about these "crappy dog owners" is the genre that does not even bother to exercise and walk their pets. Getting a dog seemed like a really cool idea at the time, but, oh, what a hassle. So rather than doing the right thing, they stick their dogs out in the backyard to run around and bark. Unfortunately, these same folks seem to acquire unusually stupid (that are usually trained horribly) dogs that bark at everything (including roly-poly's...known as sow-bugs in the Ozarks) and eventually end up with a severe case of laryngitis. It strikes me that perhaps stupid owners are attracted to stupid dogs. For crying out loud, if you want to get a dog, then train it and care for it. If you don't want to go to those efforts, then be kind to the animal and let someone who does care take it home.

Which brings me to my closing thoughts...I really have loved my dogs over the years and have taken the best care of them that I could and if you decide to get a pet, love it and love it right. Having said that, I don't get the trend today with buying insurance for animals, doing major surgery (hip replacements) on them, and even putting braces on the critters. It just strikes me as really, really weird. When I was a kid on the farm, when a dog was in bad shape, we did the most humane thing we could and took it out in the middle of nowhere and put it out of its misery – it was the humane thing to do. Honestly...we did it out of love. My friends that are animal rights activists are going to mad at me, but I think we ought to be taking care of people first...but maybe we make an exception for those crappy dog owners. You think about that...TLContinued on page 11

You can visit all of my past columns on my blog <http://tylivingstone.blogspot.com> and if you want to drop me a line you can e-mail me at tylivingston@gmail.com. I'd love to hear from you.

Outings Update – Meramec River

by: Ted Calcaterra
tcalca@hotmail.com

The club's next scheduled outing is on Saturday June 14th on the Meramec River. The upper Meramec is one of the best floating and fishing rivers in Missouri. The plan is to float 6 miles from Scotts Ford to Indian Springs. This is a designated trophy smallmouth area although many trout can still be found lurking in these waters. Adventure Outdoors will furnish us with 17' canoes along with paddles and cushions. The cost is \$30 per person made payable to Ozark Flyfishers. For those bringing their own boat, Adventure Outdoors does offer a shuttle for a small fee. The registration deadline to make sure a canoe is reserved for us is Monday June 9th. You may either call me at (636) 305-1085 or send me an email to confirm your reservation.

Directions to Adventure Outdoors are as follows. From St. Louis: take I-44 to the Cuba Exit (#208). Take Hwy 19 South (left) thru Cuba & 8 miles to Steelville. Turn right at school on Hwy 8 West (before crossing the railroad tracks and entering Steelville). Follow Hwy 8 for 4½ miles (just past the lumber yard on the right), turn right at Adventure Outdoors/Fagan's sign & follow Thurman Lake Road 2 ½ miles to the river.

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Volunteer for the Go Fish Program

Contact Malcolm Royce, Dir. Educator

Wading Tips

by Al Bourisaw

Instead of offering a fly tying tip this month, I thought I would share an article I found in the Mid Current online magazine that I receive on a weekly basis. If you are interested in subscribing to this free online magazine, go to <http://www.midcurrent.com>.



SMART WADING begins with common sense.

Don't wade unnecessarily. Wading is not appropriate in all waters. The fish are much less likely to be alerted to your presence if you stay out of the water. The pressure wave that you create as you wade spooks fish, especially in slower pools.

Wade with respect for the fish and other anglers. Every step you take disturbs the aquatic ecosystem. Avoid weed beds; they are the condos for the bugs. Avoid wading through spawning redds. Be mindful of how your wading affects nearby anglers. Your wading can stir up the bottom and impact the fishing downstream.

In big water, wade with a buddy. Have the strongest wader take the upstream side. Tuck your rod into your waders or vest. Lock arms, or, better yet, grab the collars of one another's vests with your inside hands and plant your staves with your outside hands. Talk to one another as you progress across the river.

Take appropriate safety precautions. A wader belt is as important as a seatbelt. Buckle up every time you go out and cinch it high on your chest in deeper water to trap as much air as possible and prevent water from coming in. Wear footwear that increases traction.

Use a wading staff. In rocky freestone water, with varying depths and current velocity, the angler with a staff will out fish the wader without a staff every time and will swim less.

Lean into the current. Always plant your staff upstream of your body, leaning into the current. Should you begin to lose your balance; the current will push you upright rather than downstream.

Keep your body sideways to the current. Facing directly upstream or down exposes you to the full force of the water and make it difficult to maintain your balance.

Shuffle. Move your feet along the bottom as though you are blind. Use your staff to check ahead for changes of depth or obstacles. Keep a wide stance. Feel along with each foot and find a secure spot before you commit your weight to it. Know your limits. When the water reaches your knees, wading becomes more difficult. If you have limited wading skills,

Wading from page 11

don't go in above your knees in fast water. The deeper the water, the more buoyant you become and the less traction you have. There is a point of no return, when you are at the mercy of the current, even if your feet are still touching the bottom. Learn to anticipate that point and to stop before you reach it.

Conserve energy. Cross on a slight downstream angle wherever possible. When fishing upstream, walk the bank or in the slow currents along the side and use the eddies created by rocks in the current to ease your passage. Move from eddy to eddy in a river with boulders. Those little pockets of still water below rocks give you a moment's rest. Go around boulders, rather than up and over them. The less climbing the better.

Plan your route. Look downstream for obstacles and hazards you will have to deal with if you lose your footing. If there is particularly hazardous water below, consider crossing or wading elsewhere. Think about what you'll do if you're swept away. Look for the places where you might get into an eddy. Look for obstacles that might trap or injure you.. Don't die for your tackle. If you are swept off your feet, you might be able to tuck your rod butt down into the front of your waders or throw it to shore, but don't risk your life for a rod. Your recovery will be considerably easier with both hands free.

Practice swimming with your waders on — in a river or swimming pool. This helps to mentally prepare you in case you fall in. Have a friend nearby for safety.

Learn to self-rescue. If you fall in fast water, turn on your back and imagine that you're a drift boat: Your feet become the bow, your head the stern, and your arms the oars. Scan the water downstream, pointing your feet at the obstacles you want to avoid and backstroke into the current with your arms. Position your body at 45 degrees into the current and stroke toward the shore. Backstroking will move you away from any obstacle downstream and toward the shore in a relatively straight line. Wait until you are in slow water before you try to stand. Get out of the cold water as fast as possible. Remember the acronym WADER. Wear your wader belt. Assess the difficulty and anticipate the problems. Develop a plan. Execute that plan. Retreat if necessary.



WindRush – April 24th

by Al Bourisaw

Ozark Fly Fishers provided assistance to the Saint Louis County Parks Department by providing stream helpers for a number of new fly fishers. Bob Temper, Larry Carli, Earl Schenberg, Craig Stephens, and Jack Birkner traveled to WindRush Farms just outside of St. James, Missouri to provide casting instructions and provide stream side help to catch the streams frisky trout. After a casting session on the Farm's lake, gillie and students took to the stream. A lot of nice rainbows were landed by students and instructors. Another great day on the stream for the Ozark bunch.



"If people concentrated on the really important things in life, there'd be a shortage of fishing poles."

Doug Larson.



Who Owns the Rivers

by Al Bourisaw

Since I started fly fishing I have heard a lot of discussion as to what waters can and cannot be fished. Last year I attended a Stream Team Conference and sat in on a course that discussed fisherman's rights. The major resource that I came away with was the National Organization for Rivers (NORS). In the next few issues I would like to provide some of the information that I found that applies to our rivers.

Common misconceptions about river law:	What the U.S. Supreme Court has actually said the law is:
<p>Misconception: A court, or government agency, designates rivers as legally navigable. If a river isn't officially designated, it isn't legally navigable.</p>	<p>Fact: The U.S. Supreme Court has repeatedly ruled that <i>"rivers that are navigable in fact are navigable in law."</i> If a river is physically navigable, it is legally navigable. No court or agency has to designate it as such.</p>
<p>Misconception: Only certain large rivers, capable of navigation by motorized ships carrying commercial freight, are legally navigable. Other rivers, where they flow through private land, belong to the surrounding landowners. The public may be allowed to run such rivers in some cases, but may not touch the banks.</p>	<p>Fact: Even rivers that are physically navigable only by canoe, kayak, and raft are still legally navigable. (The courts have also ruled that commercial recreational river trips qualify as commerce). Because they are legally navigable, such rivers are <i>held in trust for the public</i> by the states, for navigation, recreation, and fisheries. The land along them is public land up to the <i>ordinary high water mark</i> (which can be quite a distance from the water--it's the land where the vegetation and soil show the effects of water.) The public can use this land for walking, fishing, resting, camping, and other non-destructive visits.</p>
<p>Misconception: If a landowner's property deed includes the land around a river, and makes no mention of the river being public, then the river is private.</p>	<p>Fact: Public ownership of physically navigable rivers, including the land up to the ordinary high water mark, pre-dates property deeds. What the property deed says or doesn't say about the river is irrelevant.</p>
<p>Misconception: Rivers that flow through federal land (National Parks, National Forests, etc.) belong to federal agencies, whose "river management plans" can determine when, and if, navigation and recreation will be allowed.</p>	<p>Fact: Physically navigable rivers that flow through federal lands are still <i>held in trust for the public</i> by the states. River management plans must preserve the public's paramount rights to navigate and recreate on these rivers.</p>
<p>Misconception: Since the state "owns" the river and the land up to the ordinary high water mark, the state can sell or give away the river to private owners for various projects or private uses.</p>	<p>Fact: The state does not actually own the river, it holds it <i>in trust for the public</i> for navigation, recreation, and fisheries. The state is obligated to preserve the river for these public benefits.</p>
<p>Misconception: Public ownership of physically navigable rivers varies from state to state, as do the public's rights to canoe, kayak, raft, walk along, and otherwise visit such rivers.</p>	<p>Fact: Public ownership of physically navigable rivers is the same in all states. It's a U.S. Supreme Court standard, and it includes those rivers that are physically navigable by canoe, kayak, and raft. The public's right to visit additional non-navigable streams (those too small for even canoes, kayaks, and rafts) does vary from state to state, but this variation only applies to those small streams.</p>

- June – Public ownership of rivers in the United States.
- July – Who owns the rivers.
- August – How to apply river laws to river access and conservation.
- September – List of Casers

Red Quill Dry Fly

by Gary Fernadez

- Hook: Standard dry fly hook, TMC 100
- Size: 12 to 18
- Thread: Olive - 6/0 or 8/0
- Wing: Lemon Wood Duck or Mallard dyed Wood Duck
- Tail: Medium Dun Hackle Fibers or Mayfly Tails
- Body: Natural Stripped Coachman Brown Hackle or D's Quill Body shade #6 Red Quill
- Hackle: Medium Dun



Tying Tips

The tying steps for the Red Quill are the same as any other traditional dry fly. Stand and separate the wings, tie in the tails, wrap the body, wrap the hackle and whip finish. The only trick to tying the fly, is in the preparation of the feather quill.

Feather quills are dry and do not stretch. If a feather quill is wrapped dry, it will split or break. Feather quills should be soaked in water for at least 30 minutes before wrapping.

In order to tie a well proportioned quill body, cut off the very fine quill tip and save it for a size #18 or #20 fly. If you are tying a size #12, #14, or #16 Red Quill, use the lower 2/3 of the feather quill. Tie in sized feather quill by the slender tip and wrap forward towards the hook eye. Tie the quill off just behind, but not touching the feather flank wing. Leave enough space behind the wing for three or four turns of hackle.

Fishing tips:

The Red Quill pattern was originated by Art Flick to imitate the mayfly Ephemerella subvaria. This mayfly is one of the first to hatch in the Eastern and Midwestern regions of the United States. A Red Quill hatch may be encountered in March, with the major emergence occurring in April and May. In Missouri, the recommended size fly to fish is a #12 or #14. The Red Quill can also be used for any hatch of reddish brown mayflies, in the appropriate size.

The Red Quill is fished dead drift to fish that are rising or suspended in the surface film.

Kevin Miquelon
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Another Great Meeting

by Mike Krueger

WOW another great meeting for Ozark Fly Fishers. I want to thank Nick and Jennifer for their presentation at the April meeting. I believe those in attendance, over 85 again, were given a new perspective into Mill Creek and Blue Springs. These two are really a great asset to MDC and its goals of preserving the natural habitat of our state. It was interesting to see how the sky hooks, which our club was a major player in construction, held up during the great rains and flooding. Nick was very excited about the sky hooks and how they are helping the fish in their natural habitat and how they withstood the forces of Mother Nature. He is looking to the construction of more with the help of our great members. Jennifer is just getting her feet wet and is very excited about being involved in her joint effort.

Ozark Fly Fishers**Calendar of Activities****2008 - 2009****Fly Fishing Classes**

Oct 14 th	Membership School	Bob Zagar	Powder Valley	7:00 – 9:00
Nov 11 th	Membership School	Bob Zagar	Powder Valley	7:00 – 9:00
Nov 18 th	Membership School	Bob Zagar	Powder Valley	7:00 – 9:00
Dec 9 th	Membership School	Bob Zagar	Powder Valley	7:00 – 9:00

Calendar 2009

January 13 th	Membership School	Bob Zagar	Powder Valley	7:00 – 9:00
Jan 27 th	Membership School	Bob Zagar	Powder Valley	7:00 – 9:00
Feb 10 th	Membership School	Bob Zagar	Powder Valley	7:00 – 9:00

Ozark Fly Fishers Activities*(Dates in red signify that a date or location change has been made since the last newsletter.)*

May 18 th	Women's Outing	Ted Calcaterra	Mareme Springs	8:00 -
May 22 nd	General Membership	Denise Otto-Go FISH Prog	Webster Groves Rec Cen	7:00 – 9:00
May 30-31 st	Intro H ₂ OQuality Class	MDC	Montauk State Park	Mornings
June 11 th	Newsletter Deadline	Get articles to Al Bourisaw	See page one for details	
June 26 th	General Membership	B-B-Q/Casting	Tilles Park	5:00 - Dark
July 11 th	Newsletter Deadline	Get articles to Al Bourisaw	See page one for details	
July 24 th	General Membership	Smith Outfitters	Queeny Park	7:00 – 9:00
July 26 th	Tie-In	Ted Calcaterra/Bob Zagar	Graham's Club House	---
August 11 th	Newsletter Deadline	Get articles to Al Bourisaw	See page one for details	
Aug. 22-24 th	Summer Outing	Ted Calcaterra	Montauk State Park	Weekend
Aug 28 th	General Membership	TBA	Queeny Park	7:00 – 9:00
Sept 11 th	Newsletter Deadline	Get articles to Al Bourisaw	See page one for details	
Sept. 12-14 th	Eleven Point Outing	Ted Calcaterra	Eleven Point River	Weekend
Oct. 2-5 th	Southern Council Conclave		Mt. Home, Ark	Weekend
Oct 23 rd	General Membership	TBA	Queeny Park	7:00 – 9:00
Nov. 14-16 th	Catch-N-Release Outing	Russ Hill	Bennett Springs State Park	Weekend
Dec. 11th	General Membership	TBA	Queeny Park	7:00 – 9:00
<u>Calendar 2009</u>				
January 26 th	OFF Banquet	Michael Krueger	Crown Plaza	5:30 –
Feb 6,7,8th	FAYO	Ted Calcaterra	Montauk State Park	Weekend

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