

Ozark Fly Fishers



June 2008

Project Healing Waters

PROJECT HEALING WATERS FLY FISHING, Inc., initiated and conducted by members of the Federation of Fly Fishers and Trout Unlimited, serves military personnel who have been wounded, injured, or disabled to aid their physical and emotional recovery by introducing or rebuilding the skills of fly fishing and fly tying and by using and enjoying these skills on fishing outings and as lifelong recreation.

While initially focusing on the military personnel in the Washington, DC area, the Project has expanded nationwide and is offering its services and program to active military personnel and veterans in Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals throughout the country.

The Project's program provides basic fly fishing, fly casting and fly tying classes and clinics for the wounded and injured personnel ranging from beginners to those with prior fly fishing and tying experience who are adapting their skills to their new abilities. All activities and services are provided to the participants at no cost. Fly fishing and tying equipment and materials are provided to the participants, including equipment that accommodates their special needs.

The Project's training and educational activities are designed to ignite or rekindle the participants' appreciation and enthusiasm for a wide variety of fly fishing outings. While most of these fishing trips are conducted within a half-day's travel from a hospital, the Project actively seeks opportunities to offer outings in quality fishing sites across the county. This information came from their website: www.projecthealingwaters.org.



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July newsletter
deadline changed to
July 8th.

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. 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 or e-mailed to troutal@att.net



Federation of Fly Fishers

Conserving ~ Restoring ~ Education Through Fly Fishing



Terry Finger 1948 - 2008

by Bob Temper

Terry Finger passed away last week in upstate New York. He apparently had a heart attack while hiking in a rugged part of his beloved Catskill Mountains. He grew up in that area where he gained an appreciation for fly fishing and studied to become an expert fly tyer in the traditional Catskill style. Terry was a tremendous contributor to Ozark Fly Fishers, yet not many of the members really knew him. He joined OFF because he believed in what we were doing in the conservation arena. After retirement from a position as environmental policy analyst for the Missouri Legislature, he became an important part of the OFF legislative presence in Jefferson City which led to his participation representing OFF on the Maries River Water Shed Coalition. Terry wanted little recognition for his contributions, but he could not avoid them. He was honored last year by both the American Fisheries Society for work on gravel mining legislation and by Mid MO Trout Unlimited as the Conservationist of the Year. I am one of the lucky people that got to know him through working on these issues.

Terry is probably best known by OFF members for his articles on traditional flies tied with traditional materials. The series of articles ran for over two years presenting not just patterns, but a history of the fly, its development and the materials. Even with this long series of articles, not many members got to meet him because he lived in Columbia, MO and infrequently attended meetings. Likewise, he preferred fishing by himself. He was a traditionalist not only in tying flies, but he also fished exclusively with bamboo. His concept of the perfect vacation was hiking alone to a remote area to fish and then curling up in a tent with a good book to finish the day.

I will miss Terry both as a friend and consultant in conservation areas concerning our sport. We also shared model trains, as well as mounting and framing flies as hobbies. One of his fly plates hangs proudly in our family room. One of our last discussions was about a joint project to mount and frame a selection of the flies from his articles for the next banquet auction. Another opportunity lost as one of the truly good guys was taken from us much too early.

Terry R. Finger, 59, of Columbia, Missouri passed away on June 11, 2008 while hiking in the Catskill Mountains. He was born July 21, 1948 in Saugerties, New York, to Robert and Shirley Finger. He married Susan Fuller of Gainesville, Georgia on December 14, 1979. Terry was a unique individual with many wonderful talents. He loved his family, his music, and the outdoors, especially fishing, birding, and hiking. He valued scholarly endeavors and believed strongly in protecting the environment. His memory will fill a very special place in the hearts of those who knew him. Terry is survived by his wife, Susan; his two children, Laura and Stephen; his mother, Shirley Finger; and his sister, Carole Luther. He was preceded in death by his father. Memorial services will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 18, 2008 at Memorial Funeral Home, 1217 Bus. 70 West, Columbia, Missouri 65202, with visitation beginning at 1:00 p.m. Memorial contributions can be made to the Esopus Creek Conservancy (esopuscreekconservancy.org)

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JULY NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE CHANGED
TO JULY 8TH.

Such sad news.....Terry was so wonderful to work with and a true inspiration -- one of those pivotal people I've had the privilege to know in my life.

I'm very happy that he received recognition for his passion and work from the AFS and was recognized as Mid-Mo Trout Unlimited Conservationist of the Year this past year. He will always be on that list for me.....a great loss, but he left a greater legacy.

Wallis W. Warren

Stream Team 31 Meeting Minutes

by Bob Temper

June 3, 2008 - Powder Valley 7:00p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Blue Springs Creek – Adopt an Access

Several methods of trash pickup at the river access and stream parking areas were discussed. This is not a clean stream type work project (we will do that later), just regular maintenance of access areas. There are no restrooms or trash containers at any of these areas which is by design to keep them as low maintenance. We agreed to schedule trash pickup for Blue Springs Creek Access and parking areas through a monthly volunteer schedule. A sign up sheet will be available at OFF monthly meetings.

Trash can be deposited in the dumpster at the Sullivan MDC Office. We will establish a box to contain supplies for the Adopt an Access program. The box will include such things as work gloves, trash bags and possibly a couple of pair of grabbers. The box will be passed on to the next volunteers at the monthly OFF meeting. Work gloves and trash bags have been obtained from Stream Team.

Water Quality Monitoring (WQM)

Streams for consideration of WQM include: Blue Springs Creek, Current River, and Mill Creek. Others may be added in the future depending upon available volunteers. The recommended frequency for WQM is 2 to 4 times per year. Current River will be monitored 4 times per year, but Blue Springs Creek and Mill Creek will be limited to two times per year each, so as not to excessively disturb these small sensitive streams.

Malcolm Royse will lead a group to do the first scheduled WQM of Current River at 9:00 a.m. at TanVat on July 13, 2008. MDC Fisheries Biologist Jennifer Goyott and Forester Nate Forbes will be contacted about scheduling a fall WQM and work project to remove invasive species of plants on Blue Springs Creek. Fisheries Biologist Nick Girando will be contacted to schedule a date for WQM on Mill Creek

Three racks to aid examination of the kick nets used in WQM are to be built for use by Stream Team members. Malcolm Royse and Bob Temper will lead a group to build the racks.

Reporting of each stream team activity should be done by one volunteer in each group using the Stream Team Forms available on line. The names of all volunteers present for the activity should be included in the report. When the activity is reported on line the sender will receive a copy of the submitted form by e-mail. That e-mail should be forwarded to Bob Temper to keep tract of the number of activities and volunteer hours by OFF Stream Team # 31. To be consistent, it was decided that we should include driving time when reporting volunteer hours for the activity.

Articles and pictures of each activity should be submitted to both the OFF newsletter and Stream Team.

Welcome New Members

Roger Knox
Belleville, IL

Harry Nemnich
St. Louis, MO

David Rexroat
St. Louis, MO

Paul W. Rexroat
Pacific, MO

Al Schumacher
St. Louis, MO

Miles & Suzy Estes
St. Louis, MO



Marine Cpl. Neil Frustaglio, who lost parts of both legs to a roadside bomb while he was on duty in Iraq, is among those participating in Project Healing Waters. He has spent countless hours recovering from his injuries, part of that time spent with his wheelchair partially submerged in water and a fishing line extending from his hands



What else can you say?

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President's Message

by Mike Swederska, Sr.



Wow! I still cannot get over this weather. It seems that it rains ever night and the creeks don't get a chance to go down to normal levels. Even though, I still get my fishing in.

The board just got done with another meeting and as the norm we covered a lot of new and old business, some of it I would like to bring to the members attention.

Louis Krueger has taken on the role of banquette chair and the first thing that she has started is to sell tickets at the general membership meetings. We have never done this in the past but our goal this year is to have two hundred members at the banquet. Some of the venue has changed for the banquet to create a more fun time for both members and their spouses. I will let Louis put something in the newsletter announcing some of the

changes once they are final. I thing that the ideas she is working on will pleasantly surprise a lot of members. Please purchase your tickets early this year. Remember, the banquet is the only fundraiser for our club. The money that is raised at this party is what we operate on all year.

The work on the Ozark Fly Fishers Fly Recipe book has started. There are some great ideas for the format of the fly recipe book and I am excited about how it is turning out. Look for our tying chair to reach out to the members for patterns. It is hard to believe that June is our next meeting, half way thru 2008. This meeting will be held at Tilles Park under the pavilion next to the dam. The club will have casting instructors for anyone that wants help with their casting stroke. The meeting should start around 5-6 and go until dark. The same caterers will serve dinner as last year. This really is not a business meeting, but a fun get to know your fellow Ozark Fly Fisher.

Continued on page 14

**Youth Conclave 2008
DON'T MISS IT!**

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.

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Teaching Fly Tying as Therapy

By John Colburn – Originally published on Fly Anglers Online web site

"It Isn't That You Can't Do It; It's That We Haven't Figured Out A Way That You Can Do It."

Fly tying as therapy for military service personnel with arm and hand injuries involving paralysis of the arm and hand or artificial arms and hands is not a new procedure. William Blades, a noted fly tyer in the World War II era, taught fly tying to several hundred wounded marines and sailors at the Great Lakes Naval Hospital during that war.

While Bill Blades started teaching fly tying as recreation for the servicemen, it was soon shown that the procedures used in tying fishing flies aided these men to gain more use of the fine motor skills in their injured arms and hands and with the relatively crude artificial arms and hands of that era.

When Captain Ed Nicholson (USN, retired) of the National Capital Chapter of Trout Unlimited (NCC-TU) and a member of the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) and others in NCC-TU began Project Healing Waters to teach fly casting and fishing to the war wounded patients at Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC), I remembered Bill Blades teaching fly tying in WWII and decided that I would try to emulate him at WRAMC as a part of Project Healing Waters.

After examining a number of books, videos, and DVDs on fly tying, I decided to use Basic Fly Tying, edited by Jon Rounds and published by Stackpole Books, because of its clear and well illustrated instructions and because there was a two disk DVD set based on the book that could be used to give the patients excellent demonstrations of the use of the fly tying tools and the procedures used in tying the flies. Marvin Nolte, an FFF Buz Buszek Award recipient, is the tyer in the DVDs and a much better fly tyer than I and by using the DVDs, the patients could get a much clearer idea of the procedures than they could by trying to watch me.

I wrote up a class syllabus based on the book and DVDs and my prior experience in teaching fly tying classes. Initially the syllabus called for nine two hour class sessions: an introduction to the class and familiarization with the tools and materials; eight sessions teaching the tying of the nine flies in the book (one session covered tying two versions of a single fly); and a "graduation" session where the students would learn to tie a soft hackle fly and then tie one of the flies learned in the course as a final exam. The time allotted was actually much more than that allotted for similar classes I had taught in the past.

In the first session there were five students, four with prosthetics on their left arms, one with a badly damaged and partially paralyzed right arm and hand (he was left-handed before he was wounded), and an occupational therapy technician who was to work with the students between classes. I had set a limit of six students for the class. By the fourth week two of the patients with prosthetics and the OT technician were transferred from WRAMC, and the class continued with the three remaining men.

By the second session it was apparent that the instruction would involve a great deal of individual attention because, despite similar disabilities, each student had his own difficulties in performing the skills needed to tie the flies and many of the tools needed to be modified or replaced with other types to make it possible for the students to tie flies. For example, two different bobbins, five different hackle pliers, and six different vises were used during the classes, and the students used the tools they found best suited their particular needs.

At the second class session the students were to tie a Woolly Buzzer, one of the easiest flies that normally take less than an hour to learn. Because of their individual difficulties, the class lasted nearly three hours. All were able to tie a reasonable Woolly Buzzer and were required to tie a dozen more to be presented at the next class.

At the third session all the students produced their Woolly Buzzers, including one student who's prosthetic was in the shop all week, but he tied his dozen with one hand and his teeth. Any of the Woolly Buzzers were fishable and likely to be taken by fish.

By the end of the fifth session it was apparent that handling of the elk hair for an Elk Hair Caddis fly would be beyond the capability of the students with prosthetics, so I changed to have them tie a Mickey Finn hair wing streamer. It still involved tying in a hair wing but less difficult than an elk hair wing.

I decided to depart from the flies in the book and have the students tie other flies that involved many of the same procedures but simpler to tie. Besides the Mickey Finn, the students tied Cone Head Shad Darts, a variety of foam flies, and several flies of their own design in addition to the Woolly Buzzer, Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear, and Bead Head Pheasant Tail Nymph that were part of the lessons in the Basic Fly Tying book.

I also changed the time allotted to each fly from one two hour session to two sessions of two hours each. At times some of the students had to miss a class because of hospital appointments and trips away from WRAMC, and the additional time gave them a chance to catch up to the others and also gave me more time to work with the individual problems.


The students have gone to several fishing club meetings and fly fishing shows to tie flies, not as freaks to be stared at, but as fellow fly tiers and fishermen. They talk with the people about Project Healing Waters, fishing trips they've had and are planning, and how learning to tie flies has helped in learning to use their prosthetics and damaged arms and hands for other tasks.

therapy from page 5

This first class is now finished with formal fly tying instruction because they have become quite proficient in many of the techniques involved in fly tying and have developed some of the fine motor skills that are needed in daily life. One of the students has been retired from the service and is attending a local college. The remaining two students want to help with the new class that will start in April.

Teaching fly tying as therapy to these "wounded warriors" has been the most difficult teaching experience of my life, but also the most rewarding. Helping these young men learn ways to overcome the limitations imposed by their wounds called for all the ingenuity I could muster, and at times it wasn't quite enough. By working in cooperation with the student, we usually figured out a way that he could perform a technique that could be useful throughout his life.

My reward has been the friendship of these young men and the knowledge that, in a small way, I have eased their lives. They were great guys, and I thoroughly enjoyed tyin' and lyin' with them.



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Meeting Report:

by Mike Krueger

I would like to say thanks to Denise Otto from MDC for her presentation about the GO FISH program. It appeared that many members in attendance had not heard of the 7 HOOK program. Personally I have had a great deal of fun helping and explaining to the kids about fishing. Some of these kids have never seen a live fish much less caught one. The look on their faces when they hook that first BIG one is incredible. I also want to say thanks to the members who signed up for the program. Denise will be in touch with the dates for the training classes. Let's get involved. The regular June meeting, June 26, will be at Tillis Park. Bring your rod

and reel and get personal casting instruction to help you be a better caster. We will start at 5:30 PM. There will be no formal meeting. Kevin and FOODMAN will provide the eats. The food will be great, if it is anything like it was at the FeatherCraft open house, and it will be. Thanks Kevin!!!!

Next month, July 24, our featured speaker will be Brian Pilsner from Schmidt Outfitters. Brian is a seasoned fly fisher and I have been told a great guide who knows his waters. The web site is www.schmidtoutfitters.com take a look at all the great information, which includes Brian's bio. This meeting will be held at the Webster Groves Recreation Complex. The same place as the May meeting. If you need directions feel free to e-mail me at mkrueger2003@yahoo.com

Random Thoughts

by Ty Livingston – June 2008

TO WHOM DO WE OWE THIS FREEDOM WE ENJOY?

Sometimes in life, things occur to me that strike me as genius, only to find out that I have discovered the most obvious things that all of my friends and family already knew. Often these revelations happen to be an idea that my young grandchildren (usually the ones under ten) knew all along. Either I am really slow, or they are just very wise. Perhaps it is a combination...I really don't know.

One of these recent flashes of brilliance (or not!) came to me after a recent club meeting for Ozark Fly Fishers in St. Louis. They moved the meeting location and I got lost on the way there and almost bailed and went home. They were featuring a speaker from the Missouri Department of Conservation on the new fishing program for kids. I wanted to hear what she had to say so I was hell-bent on finding the meeting place. I got there, a little late, but made it. I always like to hear about things that get kids out fishing. I enjoyed her presentation but there was a special surprise at the meeting that I did not know about until I got there.

There was a young man by the name of Ken Morrow that gave a presentation on a program called Project Healing Waters. I had heard of this but I am ashamed to admit that I knew very little about it. Mr. Morrow gave a very good presentation and he showed a video that touched me very deeply. He is a disabled veteran himself having done several tours and is now retired from the military. He is participating in this program as a volunteer, serving as the Regional Coordinator for the Southern Region. Ken lives in Springfield, Missouri and I found him to be a very pleasant and enthusiastic fellow. In the video that Ken played for us hearing about a soldier that was brought back from the brink of darkness by fly fishing really hit me hard in the gut. It was a powerful message and I am really glad to know that Ozark Fly Fishers is going to get behind the program. If you go to their web-site (www.projecthealingwaters.org) you can find out more, view some video (they were even featured on ESPN!), and see their sponsors and some of their board members. FFF and Trout Unlimited have both made a commitment to them and you can even donate money from the site if you so choose.

Across the Atlantic Ocean, there is a little coastal village in France called Colleville-sur-Mer, next to an area in the Normandy region, which, once upon a time was referred to as Omaha Beach. In this village, there is an American cemetery that contains row upon row of identical white crosses and stars of David. They are immaculately kept and they commemorate the American soldiers that gave their lives in World War II. If you ever have a chance to visit this special place, you will never be the same.

What was my thought that should have been so obvious? It was this: *The freedom that I enjoy has not been free.* Blood has been shed across the globe for my family – me, my wife, my children, my grandchildren, and those not even born yet. We owe a great big thank you to those who have so faithfully served our great country and its citizens. When I sit by my fireplace on a cold winter evening sipping a glass of single malt scotch, dreaming of a good cigar, flipping through my favorite fishing book and petting my faithful bird dog, it is awfully easy to take all of that goodness for granted. I look forward to helping out with Ozark Fly Fishers and the Project Healing Waters. I want to support those that have had my back all these years. I hope you will consider it as well. It is the least we can do. You think about that...TL

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

Education Report

by Malcolm Royce

We will start our Stream Team work on the Current River beginning July 13, 2008 at 9:00 am meeting at the Tan Vat Parking Lot and setting up 3 monitoring sites. We will need people to help with the collection process and hopefully get water quality testing done, also. After we get all the paperwork done, I hope we can do a little clean up of trash and be finished by noon. If you went through the introduction program, this will be the field work session needed to qualify for Level I training in the fall.

The Current River calendar for Stream Team will be as follows:

Sunday,	July 13, 2008
	9:00am Tan Vat
Saturday	October 18, 2008
	9:00am Tan Vat
Saturday	April 18, 2009
	9:00am Tan Vat

Remember you can always do trash pickup any time.

Please email me at doorman709@sbcglobal.net if you are coming down on July 13th, or call me at 636-329-1504.

For all you Stream Teamers who need to build a stand for laying out your collection nets, there will be a "building party" in my garage on Saturday, July 5, 2008 at 9:00 am. I will get enough materials for 2 stands plus enough for anyone who lets me know they are coming to build one. My address is 709 Cooper Way Drive, O'Fallon, MO 63368.

We are also beginning the process of determining classes for the fall and winter. There will hopefully be something for everyone.

"I want fish from fishing, but I want a great deal more than that, and getting it is not always dependent upon catching fish." - Roderick Haig-Brown (1946)

Weapon of Mass Destruction

by Chris Seep

I'd like to introduce you to the Weapon of Mass Destruction. Hey, wait a minute, you say, that's a black deer hair beetle, nothing special. Well, you're right, of course, but in the past three or so years that I have been fishing this fly at Montauk, my success has been so good that I renamed the fly. It's particularly a good choice from mid-summer through fall, especially in the afternoon when the air temperature has warmed up. If the trout are looking up and taking bugs off the surface, try this fly; it's a great hatch buster.

This fly floats forever, especially if you dope it up before fishing it. It can be really hard to see on the water, but so far I've resisted adding any color to the fly, because it fishes so well as is. Try to watch carefully where it lands on the water; then it becomes easier to follow the fly's drift. Sometimes I'll drop it off a more visible dry fly to keep track of it.

Here's the pattern as I tie it. It's a great fly for a beginner fly-tyer, since it uses only three materials.

- ✓ Hook: #14 standard dry fly hook. It's the only size I use, although, of course, you could tie it in a variety of sizes.
- ✓ Thread: #6 black Unithread or equivalent
- ✓ Tail: Fibers from a mallard flank feather. Do not omit the tail. I'm convinced that it's a large part of the appeal of this fly. Probably represents the beetle's wings poking out of his partially opened shellback.
- ✓ Underbody: Peacock herl
- ✓ Overbody: Black deer hair.



Here's how I tie it:

- 1) Layer thread from just behind the hook eye to the bend of the hook.
- 2) Tie in a few mallard flank fibers to create a tail.
- 3) Select a bunch of black deer hair, a little larger than you would use for an Elk Hair Caddis and cut it from the skin. Do not bother to align the tips. Even the cut ends with your scissors and tie onto the hook one-third forward from the bend. Gradually increase your tension on the thread as you tie, and the butts of the deer hair will flare around the hook. Trim these close to the hook with your scissors.
- 4) Tie in two strands of peacock herl on top of the deer hair butts. Wind the peacock forward to within one-quarter shank's length behind the hook eye and tie off.
- 5) Gather the deer hair tightly, giving it a slight twist and pull it forward, tying it off at the same point you tied off the peacock.
- 6) Lift the tips of the deer hair and place thread wraps forward of them and tie off using your whip finisher.
- 7) Clip the deer hair tips to create a head, as you would do with an Elk Hair Caddis.
- 8) At the rear of the fly, with your scissor tips tease out two or three hairs from each side of the body to create legs.

Now you're ready to fish the Weapon of Mass Destruction

Women Fly Fishers or "Want to Learn Fly Fishers" – Make the Connection!

The International Women Fly Fishers (IWFF) will hold their 13th annual Festival in Branson, Missouri October 16-19, 2008. This is a great opportunity to meet other women fly fishers from all over the world, learn about fly fishing, and fish! We start with a cocktail party Thursday evening, clinics Friday and Saturday mornings, a banquet and auction Saturday evening, and fish in the afternoons. What more could you want? This year's

Festival will be held at Pointe Royale Golf Resort which sits on the banks of Taneycomo, a world class fishery. Please check out our website – www.intlwomenflyfishers.org, click on "Festivals" to learn more about the Festival, or any of the other categories to learn more about IWFF. The registration form and information on accommodations is also given. You can also contact Carolyn Parker at rverrunout@aol.com if you want more information. *We certainly hope you will join us*

Conservation

by Wallis W Warren

Teaming with Wildlife Rally

Teaming with Wildlife www.teaming.com is a national coalition of more than 5,000 organizations working together to prevent wildlife from becoming endangered. The coalition works to support increased public funding for wildlife conservation and associated recreation and education in every state. The *Teaming with Wildlife* Coalition includes wildlife biologists, state wildlife agencies, conservationists, hunters, anglers, birdwatchers, nature-based businesses and many others who support the goal of restoring and conserving our wildlife.

Ozark Fly Fishers is a supporter of this organization, and as such I attended the all day rally held June 7 in Columbia. Representatives from many groups were present at the rally, including MDC, DNR, USFWS, NRS, the Conservation Heritage Foundation, Ducks Unlimited, Audubon & the Nature Conservancy along with the Conservation Federation of Missouri which sponsored this event.

Developing partnerships and volunteering was the focus of the program, with many examples of successful partnerships throughout the state outlined. COA (Conservation Opportunity Areas) were used as examples of how we can prevent wildlife from becoming endangered by focusing on conserving lands and clean waters, thereby providing healthy habitat. The best strategy is to conserve representative habitats or entire natural communities across the state which differs from the traditional fish and wildlife management which has typically focused on a single species. Because governmental protection does not occur until a species becomes endangered or is considered a game animal, it is often too late to protect some of our native fish and wildlife. By supporting the State Wildlife Grants Program, we can fund efforts to conserve wildlife before they become more rare and more costly to protect.


It was encouraging to see the commitment and enthusiasm of the various groups focused on a singular goal – to protect those places and outdoor activities we love and assure future generations the same joy, wonder and gratitude for the amazing variety in Missouri’s outdoors.

Legislative Watch – *America’s Climate Security Act (S.3036)* was debated and voted on June 4. We asked for support of this legislation due to the dedicated funding that was included in the bill, essential for conserving American’s rivers, streams, fish, wildlife and other natural resources threatened by global warming.

Conservation helps support active outdoor recreation such as camping, fishing, hiking, paddling, and wildlife viewing. These and other outdoor activities provided approximately \$10.5 billion economic impact last year in Missouri – many times more that all of our major sports teams in the state combined.

This was a complex bill with much debate, and although the bill was not passed this session, the subject will be under consideration in upcoming sessions, both on a state and national level. We want to be prepared to support measures such as these that will provide essential funding for our natural resources and reduce global warming. The backbone of a healthy economy and community is a healthy environment, including safe drinking water, healthy fisheries, forest products, clean air and much more.

We will keep you updated as additional legislation is developed and presented, and count on your support in our conservation efforts!



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Who Owns the Rivers _____

In the May issue of the newsletter I published an article taken from the web site of the National Organization for Rivers (NORS) www.nationalrivers.org/us-law-menu-htm . Apparently the article hit a nerve and I received an e-mail concerning the article. It is an interesting e-mail and though provoking, so I thought I would share it with the club.

I read with great interest, your brief outline of the rights accorded fishermen when floating or wading. Various aspects of your outline are incorrect. First, the Missouri Supreme Court outlined what constitutes a "navigable" waterway in the State of Missouri. It is Missouri law that controls most rivers & streams in the State of Missouri. In fact, the only "navigable" rivers under the federal standard are the Mississippi and Missouri rivers. The concept of navigability in Missouri for determining what streams are "navigable" or "non-navigable" looked toward historical uses. They expound upon this standard and have included a look toward historical riparian uses when examining a particular river or stream. I have attached *Elder v. Delcour*, 269 S.W.2d 17. for your review.

I would suggest reviewing the Missouri Supreme Court case, and also *Dennig v. Graham* 59 S.W.2d. In the *Dennig* case, a portion of Greer Spring branch has been specifically excluded from fishing or travel by boat by the Missouri Supreme Court. There have been several articles written regarding the issues you discuss. What you have indicated as "FACT" is a misstatement of the law in Missouri or it represents the legal standard or proposed legal concepts from other states. Under your "Facts" that are stated, there is nothing to preclude a boater from traveling up streams like the Benton Fork owned by the Drennan family at WindRush Farms or navigating a Kayak through Maramec Spring Park owned by the James Foundation.

Please check the "Facts" of this outline.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Bert
Attorney at Law

Since the "Facts" that were published in the May newsletter were from a national organization - not local, I decided to check with the Missouri Department of Conservation web site to get their "Facts" about the issue of navigable streams. I found this information.

Trespassing

Owners also have the right to the exclusive and quiet enjoyment of their property, according to a 1933 decision in the case of *Dennig v. Graham*. *Dennig* owned Greer Springs at the time and for nearly two decades had stocked from 100,000 to 150,000 trout per year into the spring. He brought suit to prevent the public from fishing in the spring without his permission. In this decision, the judge stated that, although the spring was one of the largest in the world (and, indeed, might be the Eighth Wonder of the World), it was owned by a private individual, who "is entitled to the quiet and peaceful possession of his property without the annoyance and interference of trespassers."

Navigable Streams

Landowners with navigable streams running through or adjacent to their property are not always entitled to the exclusive enjoyment of the stream, however.

Missouri has some of the most beautiful rivers and streams in our country. You can float in a boat or canoe down a navigable stream which travels over private property without the owner's permission. However, that does not mean you have the right to trespass over private property on either side of the river.

The Missouri Supreme Court discussed the rules applicable to navigable streams in the 1893 case of "*Cooley v. Golden*." That case involved a dispute over the ownership of an area located in the old bed of the Missouri River in Atchison County. The Missouri Supreme Court determined that the owners of land adjacent to a navigable stream do not have ownership rights which extend to the middle of the stream, but only to the water's edge.

Property owners can also claim such land as has been added to theirs by the regular process of accretion or which is uncovered through reliction (*relocation* ?), which adds to contiguous land through changes in the water's edge. In 1954,

the landmark case of "Elder v. Delcour" was decided by the Missouri Supreme Court. In this case, Elder claimed the right to float and fish on the Meramec River where it flowed across Delcour's farm in Dent County, several miles upstream from the mouth of Crooked Creek. At various points on Delcour's property, signs were posted reading: No hunting, fishing or trespassing without permission.

At the point where the Meramec River crossed Delcour's property it was navigable by canoes, rowboats and other small floating craft of similar size and nature. In the past, when logs and timber were customarily transported by floating, the Meramec River was used for that purpose as it crossed over the Delcour land. At points above and below Delcour's farm, the stream was heavily fished by sportsmen who waded, floated and also fished from the bank.

The specific incidents giving rise to the case were dramatic. Elder placed his canoe in the Meramec River at a public access area upstream from Delcour's property. He and his wife then proceeded to float down the stream, fishing as they went.

When the Elders arrived at the Delcour farm they came to a wire fence across the river. As Elder was pressing the fence down to lift his canoe over it, Delcour ordered him to stop and advised him that he was not permitted to float over private property, calling his attention to the no trespassing signs. He advised Elder that he would sue him for trespassing if he did not turn around and go back upstream.

Elder advised Delcour that he had a legal right to travel down the stream, fishing as he went and even to tie up his canoe at likely spots or wade in the bed of the stream. (The exact wording of their conversation was not included in the court opinion, but we can safely assume it was more colorful than this account of it). Elder then proceeded to lift his canoe over the wire fence and continued to float down the river in his canoe, fishing with his fly rod from the canoe as well as by wading. In discussing Delcour's rights as a landowner, the Court specifically noted that "the waters of the Meramec River are public waters" and that the submerged area of its channel which crossed Delcour's farm was a "public highway" for travel by floating or wading, for business or for pleasure, and that in traveling the course of the stream, Elder had not trespassed on Delcour's property. Significantly (and interestingly) the Court took judicial notice of the publicly known fact that "the Meramec River has long been known as a very popular fishing stream."

The Court noted that a number of prior cases had specifically found several other Missouri streams to be "public highways," including the Gasconade River in Pulaski County, the Current River, Indian Creek (in Washington and Franklin counties) and the Black River.

Thus, the law in Missouri is that adjacent property owners have ownership rights up to the edge of a navigable river since the bed of a navigable river is owned by the public. Adjacent property owners, however, own the bed under non-navigable rivers, subject to an easement for public travel by boat or wading if the river is suitable for use as a "public highway."

The 1957 case of "Sneed v. Weber" stated that, to be navigable under the Missouri rule, the stream must be capable of floating vessels or boats as are used in the customary modes of travel in pursuit of commerce. A stream is not navigable simply because a small boat may be navigated through a tortuous course. To be navigable, a stream must be navigable in its natural state, unaided by artificial means or devices; waters which may be made floatable only by artificial means are not regarded as navigable or as public highways. The Mississippi and Missouri rivers are unquestionably navigable rivers.

The 1920 case of "Hobart-Lee Tie Co. v. Grabner" took judicial notice that at the Gasconade River in Pulaski County may be found "the grandeur of the magnificent Ozark uplift; that the stream throughout the County of Pulaski is at many places narrow and its waters swift and beautiful; that in the bed of the Ozark streams there are shoals and bars which furnish a happy camping ground for the erstwhile fisherman; and an occasional rapid joins in the chorus of nature."

In the 1919 case of "State v. Wright," the court took judicial notice of the fact that the Current River is a "fine fishing stream." The 1973 case of "Burk v. Colley" acknowledged that the "cool, clear and sparkling waters" of the Current River are part of "many a float fisherman's fondest memory."

The above comments can be found on the Missouri Department of Conservation web site and were penned by *Dudley McCarter, an attorney in St. Louis, who admits to being a fair smallmouth bass fisherman, but a terrible marksman. He is a past president of the Missouri Bar.*

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

Dear Club,

If any of your members enjoy Fly Tying then we strongly recommend sharing with them the new web site <http://www.theweeklyfly.com> . The website releases a new video, every week, of a professional tyer explaining one of his better patterns. This is a FREE resource, and we hope your members find it interesting, and helpful. Please pass on the good news to your Club!

Regards,
Mike Nelson
Reel Action Media

Montauk Outing Update

by: Ted Calcaterra

tcalfa@hotmail.com

(636) 305-1085

The club will have its annual Montauk outing on the weekend of August 22-24th. We have 20 motel rooms signed up as well as the Searcy Room. The deadline for signing up this year is Sunday August 17th. This is a very popular event so please make sure to sign up as early as possible. As usual, the club will be providing dinner on Saturday night, which will be catered by the lodge. The Searcy room will also be available to us all day Saturday and Sunday for those who want to get some tying done in addition to the fantastic fishing available.

All rooms include two double beds, TV, etc but no kitchen. They have a walk out back door and a picnic table. These are the rooms next to the lodge. Tax is included and all prices subject to change. Make checks payable to Ozark Fly Fishers c/o Ted Calcaterra. The rates are as follows:

Two person/night	\$70
Three person/night	\$76
Four person/night	\$82

Mail Checks to: Ted Calcaterra
452 Hamilton Meadows
Fenton, MO 63026

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 22-24	Montauk State Park
September 13-14	Eleven Point River
October 2-4	Southern Council Conclave Mountain Home AR

The Little Guy

By Mike Swederska

People can call me what they want but I enjoy the personal attention I receive from small businesses. Just about all the firms I do business with are family-owned and I take pride in knowing I am keeping them in business by dealing with them. Some people may say I am this way because I am one of those small business owners. Yes and no. Because I am I have learned to enjoy the feeling I get from the two fly shops that I do deal with. They treat me just like any other customer and that is like one of their family. I, like everyone else in our sport, have my own personal quirks. One of mine is my scissors when I tie. The pair that I use I have ground down to fit my hand and my style of cutting. Well, my son decided to get back into fly tying and I gave him all my stuff to take home and get reacquainted. So here is my story of why I am so darn uptight about people dealing with the small businessman instead of the big box companies.

I felt like tying about a week ago Saturday. I called up Ted at Feather-Craft and asked if I could come up to the fly shop to sit and tie. I just did not feel like tying by myself. I called Bob, our tying chair, and he and I tied and had a great time. I would not have done that with the big box outfit. It was at that time I learned that my son kept my Traveler and failed to tell me. No big deal, I just tied on one of Feather-Craft's class vises.

Now last Saturday one of my favorite shows plays on Channel 9, MDC's television series. Got me aching to tie. It was about five thirty and I realized my son had kept my scissors. Damn!!! I tried cutting with other pairs that I had on hand but I felt very awkward and I stabbed myself several times. Shoot, I bet the guys are still over at Tom's. Jumped in my truck and sure enough they were still on the front stoop shooting the breeze. It seems that Tom just got done cutting the grass on the side of the fly shop when I got there. Of course I took the usual razzing about where have I been. All in great fun, and a part of making me feeling welcome. I told Tom what had happened with my scissors and he said that the scissors were hanging on the wall just behind the counter, go pick one out.

First, I realized that it was way after closing by darn near an hour. Try that at one of the big box companies. Tom again knows some of my quirks and we could not find the scissors that I was looking for. Not many guys use this type so they don't really stock them. Tom goes behind the counter to a bunch of scissors on a peg hook and pulls down a bag with two pair in it. The things were funky looking. I had never seen anything like them. Tom said that he had used this style way back when he was tying and the company no longer makes them. He told me to just try them because they fit my quirk. I had my reservations but I really liked the way they fit in my hand. Again no big box would have had something like this in the store because of inventory turnover. These scissors are very old and didn't look like something a modern day synthetic fly tier would use. Since I don't use any synthetic except for Mylar these scissor will cut just fine.

So I agreed to give them a try and asked Tom how much. No way just take them. What!!! No Tom. I said please let me pay for them. He would not take a nickel. So I agreed, but still ordered the pair that I was use to using. I got home, started to tie and after about six Crackle-Backs I fell in love with these

Continued on page 14



Warren Wallis with her first redfish, about 9 lbs. using the Orvis Helios 6 wt rod...GREAT!



38 lb Black Drum, caught by Tim Wade on a 6wt rod that Steve Antonic built...now that guy can build a rod!!



**Mark your calendar for
the August 22-24th
outing at Montauk**

Little Guy from page 13

scissors. Wow, what a neat little tool. I would never have thought, but Tom insisted and now I am better off. I love small business people for just this reason.

If you noticed I mentioned the Crackle-Back. Yep, I learned it from the man himself, Ed Story. That was just another great experience that I will never forget. Small business man takes the time from his busy day to sit down and teach a guy how to tie the Crackle-Back and teach it his way, the creator's way. Well that is another story in itself for another day. But the point that I am trying to get across is to the people that talk and preach all about supporting the small business man. Well, doing and talking are two different things. They will talk the talk all the way in the door of the big box company just to save a few bucks, not thinking of how it affects the small business man. But when they really need help or info that same person will run to the small business man for the help.

As our economy is changing and those few dollars that we spend on our sport may be a little harder to spend now a days. Please, my challenge to all our members. Think about what you truly are getting for your dollars spent. Sure, in the big box you may get an item for less money but not generally a whole lot less. In the family-owned business you may pay a few dollars more for the item, but look what comes with it and continues to come with it as long as you're in the sport. What I just talked about with my scissors and fly tying only comes from those few extra dollars spent. Money could not buy the two experiences I talked about in both fly shops.

President's Message from page 4

Since I am on the subject of getting to know your fellow members, the August outing is just around the corner. This is one of the club's biggest gatherings outside a general membership meeting. Check the calendar on the end of this newsletter and set that weekend aside. Please talk to Ted the club's outing director about this weekend. If not, find me and I will fill you in. Believe me, it is really a lot of fun. You don't want to miss out on this adventure.

Bob Temper and Al Bourisaw have already done a Blue Springs trash pickup. This is a great way to get involved with your fellow club members and be an active member of Stream Team 31. Contact Bob Temper for more information.

Thanks for being a part of the greatest Fly-fishing Club in the state of Missouri.

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.



"Guiding is tough on boats. I've used ClackaCraft Drift Boats for 20 years. ClackaCraft makes the most durable and dependable boat."

Mike Lawson

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

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.)*Calendar 2008

June 26 th	General Membership	B-B-Q/Casting	Tilles Park	5:30 - Dark
July 8th	Newsletter Deadline	Get articles to Al Bourisaw	See page one for details	
July 13 th	ST #31 Monitoring	Malcolm Royce	Current River – Tan Vat	9:00 -
July 24 th	General Membership	Schmidt Outfitters	Webster Rec Plex	7:00 – 9:00
July 26 th	Tie-In	Ted Calcaterra/Bob Zagar	Graham's Club House	
Aug. 22-24 th	Summer Outing	Ted Calcaterra	Montauk State Park	Weekend
Aug 28 th	General Membership	Virginia Outfitter	Queeney Park	7:00 – 9:00
Sept. 12-14 th	Eleven Point Outing	Ted Calcaterra	Eleven Point River	Weekend
Sept 25 th	General Membership	Mike Kruse	Queeney Park	7:00 – 9:00
Oct. 2-5 th	Southern Council Conclave		Mt. Home, Ark	Weekend
Oct 18 th	ST #31 Monitoring	Malcolm Royce	Current River – Tan Vat	9:00 -
Oct 23 rd	General Membership	Fly Tie Fest	Queeney Park	7:00 – 9:00
Nov. 14-16 th	Catch-N-Release Outing	Russ Hill	Bennett Springs State Park	Weekend
Dec. 11 th	General Membership	TBA	Queeney Park	7:00 – 9:00

Calendar 2009

January 24 th	OFF Banquet	Mike Krueger	Crown Center	5:30 –
Feb 6,7,8 th	FYAO	Ted Calcaterra	Montauk State Park	Weekend
April 18 th	ST #31 Monitoring	Malcolm Royce	Current River – Tan Vat`	9:00 -

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Secretary – Jerry Kniepman – 636.240.5096
Treasurer – Lou Juranas – 314.878.7442
Past President – Larry Carli – ljcarli@aol.com

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 Membership – Kevin Miquelon – 636.391.1112

Ways and Means – Bill Hale – 314.351.2214
 Communications – Al Bourisaw – 314.487.2120
 Outings – Ted Calcaterra – 636.305.1085

Chairs:

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 Fly Tying – Bob Zagar – 314.849.0092

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