



www.MTFA-Springfield.org

MTFA_Springfield@yahoo.com

MO Fishing

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Our next meeting will be Thursday, October 4th at the Springfield Conservation Nature Center. We will start fly tying at 6 PM with the business meeting beginning at 7 PM.

The program will consist of Howard announcing a rod wrapping class in the near future. He will provide the details and location. Howard will take the names of interested individuals. We did a similar class three years ago and had a great time wrapping rods of our own design and components.

Dr. Charles Erickson will provide a follow up of the MSU Fly Fishing Class that concluded this past weekend at Bennett Spring State Park.

The weekend to follow will be the 2007 Southern Council Conclave in Mountain Home Arkansas. John or Howard will be able to answer any questions at Thursday's meeting.

The web site is <http://www.southerncouncilfff.org/>

Hope to see you on Thursday

Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association - Springfield Chapter Activities for October 2007

October 4	Regular Meeting @ 6 PM Springfield Nature Center
October 5, 6, 7	Southern Council Conclave - Mountain Home, AR
October TBA	Chili Feed - Shepherd of the Hills Hatchery (Lake Taneycomo)

Regular meetings are the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Springfield Conservation Nature Center, unless indicated differently on the activity calendar.

This month, why not stop at MSU and help with the class?

Letter from the President:

Our club was asked to help in a couple of wonderful activities for Kids in our area - to help them enjoy and learn more about fishing and fly tying.

The Missouri Department of Conservation had their annual Outdoor Day in Bois D' Arc last Saturday, they had a wonderful crowd and the kids all enjoyed the day. MTFA did "Learning How to Tie Flies". I would like to thank Howard Hawkins, Norm Collison, and Rod Pennington for giving up their time to show, and tie flies with the kids.

Also, Bass Pro had their Annual Hunting and Fishing day -with Wonders of Wildlife [WOW] hosting a lot of programs including the Fish Pond for kids. We where, again, asked to participate this year (it is one of our Fund Raisers), there were 100's of kids who decided to fish on Saturday and we where short on help.

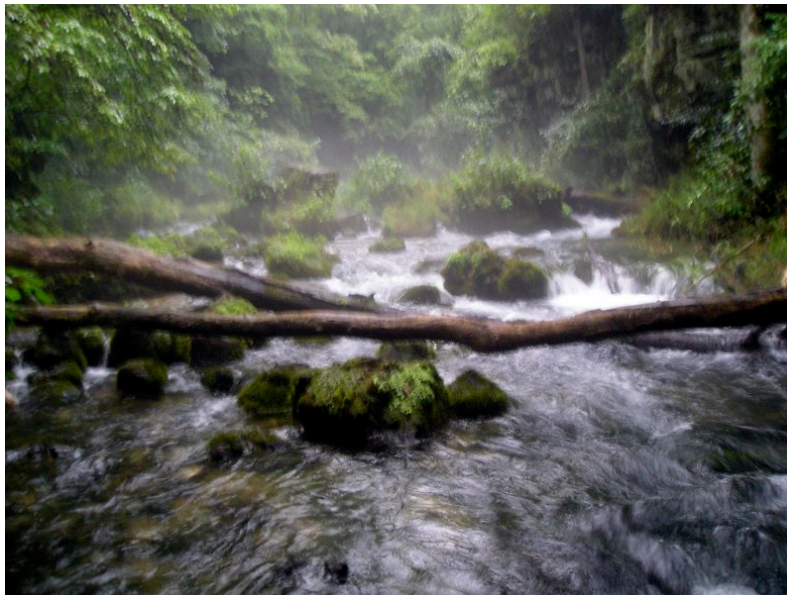
The special members who did an excellent job of helping the kids, baiting hooks, replacing hooks and sinkers, etc. are: Robbie O'Neil , John Prugger, Cletus Hermann, Anne Tunnell, and Dick Deerfield. Everyone please thank these people for the wonderful job they did and for giving up some of their time with thier families.

See you on the River

John Dozier

The September issue for FFF is now available on the following web page link:

<http://www.fedflyfishers.org/ClubWireArchives/CWArchiveMain.htm>



Eleven Point River

For Sale

Herb Knight is selling a fly rod and reel for Hope Souder,

Herb will be glad to answer your questions:

1 ea. Sage #586 GIII Graphite fly rod (NEW) w/ extra tip

1 ea. Hardy LRK Featherweight fly reel

Call Herb Knight at home 417/883-1396

Herb is looking for the best offer, Thanks

James River Adventure

The first week of August was spent on the waters of the James and the Eleven Point Rivers. I meet Kevin at James River Outfitters in Galena early in the morning to begin a three day trip, Saturday through Monday. We were shuttled up stream to the Hootentown public access to begin our trip on the James River. The James River is a relative easy stream to paddle with very few obstacles and rapids. We were targeting small-mouth bass, but happy to hook Missouri perch, green sunfish, pumpkinseed, and long-ear.

The trip from Hootentown to Galena was 22 miles; we needed to float and fish at least seven miles a day. Last year, I fished between Hootentown and Goff creek with Dennis Mount and camped in the Gorge; which is only a few miles from Hootentown. On this day, we fished through this area and continued down stream. We met an interesting fellow and gave him the name Crazy Charlie. He sat high in camp chair in his 12 ft. john boat with a yellow lab sitting at the bow. Crazy Charlie was usually asleep as he passed us several times on the first day with the lab taking point watching for trouble on the river. They were at the mercy of the mild currents, drifting carelessly into the banks of the stream and into rocks. We came upon him at one point below AA bridge; he was paddling up stream not knowing which way the river flowed. He said when he woke; he was stuck in a whirl pool and lost his bearings. This was the last sighting of him for the first day; he told us the next day he stopped at the Marble flats near Goff Creek to camp.

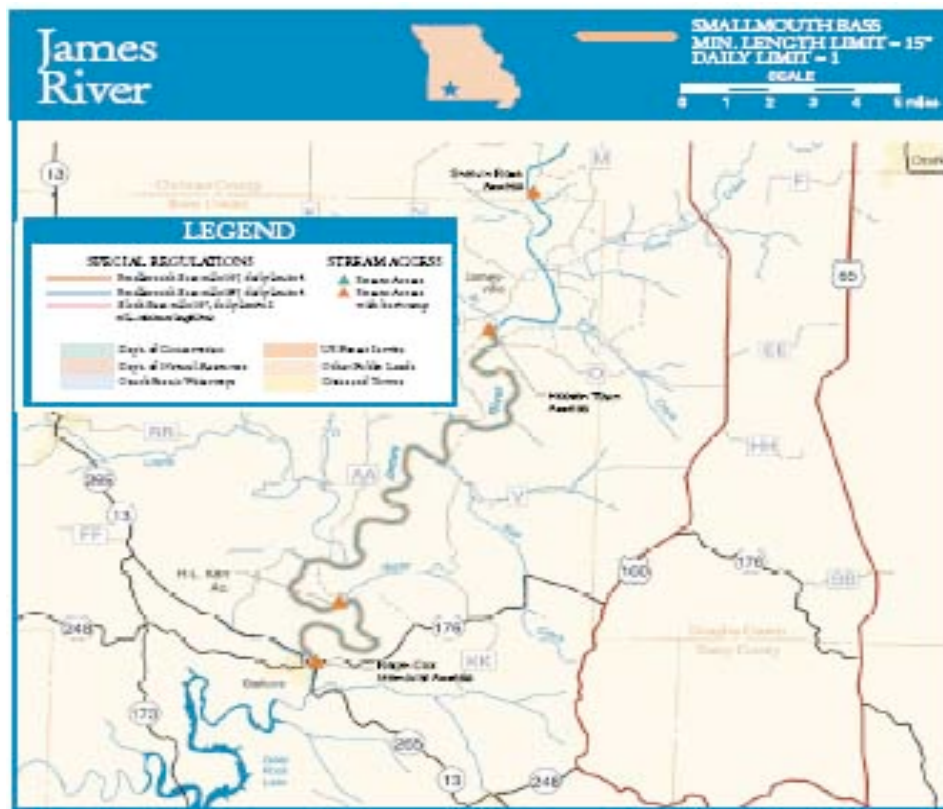
We continued to paddle down stream looking for promising waters to camp and fish for the evening. We traveled almost seven miles before pulling the canoe onto the bank and setting camp. Kevin was the gracious host, packing food and preparing the meals. The first evening meal was beef fajitas with green pepper and onions; it was a fine meal cooked over a wood fire on a metal grate. We returned to the water after 6 PM. I was using a sculpin pattern too ugly to have a name; the small-mouths were very gracious, taking my fly through this stretch of water in front of our camp. For the day, we totaled twenty small-mouths, a few goggle-eyes and a plethora of pan fish. The day was hot with a bright blue sky; the cool evening was a welcome relief. It was after 8 PM while sitting in our chairs, staring at a blazing camp fire when two fellows in separated kayaks passed our camp paddling down stream. It was seven miles to Crane Creek and more to the Kerr access. We asked how far to their take out, they replied, "we're going to the lake". It was near 9 PM, we decided to retire. The air was cool with a light fog; a screech owl could be heard along with the sounds of insects tuning for their nightly orchestral performance. It was after 11PM, the moon peaked over the valley with beams of light sneaking through the branches of the trees. The sounds of night, a raccoon or an opossum surveying our campsite, the distant hoot owl calling, waiting for a response; typical sounds that are heard on a river between sunset and sun rise.

It was 1 AM, we heard a sound not typical; it resembled a large animal, maybe a deer walking upstream in the water. I scrambled to find my glasses and flashlight, which were not to be found.

A few minutes later I heard Kevin in his tent, unzipping his sleeping bag making his way to see what was making the noise. Then we heard a voice calling out a name, the name of the other kayaker. He had taken to the bushes, hopefully not realizing our camp was near by. I finally found my glasses to see both yellow kayaks make their way upstream. It seemed like thirty minutes before the splashing sounds of the blades diminished into the night and blended with the sounds of the stream and insects. For the rest of the night, our ears were on full alert. It was a restless night on the river bank.

At sun rise, we retreated from our tents at 7 AM; Kevin made coffee and prepared a fine breakfast of pancakes and bacon. We disassembled the tents, repacked the canoe and back to the water by 8 AM. We had been in the water a short time before Crazy Charlie passed us while we were in the water fishing. He appeared more lucid and I was able to make sense of his conversation. That was the last encounter of Crazy Charlie and his dog.

The next day, we floated a short four miles down stream. The sky was clear with a bright sun; the water temperature was near 80°F. We found a few small-mouths in deeper water and in areas covered in shade. We continued to catch many pan fish. We made our next night's camp just down stream from Cox's Farm. The area looked good for an evening wade, fishing the promising waters. It was 5 PM; Kevin started and prepared the evening meal early. He made Goulash. While we were eating, two canoes with a family of four passed our camp. They asked how far to Kerr access. We replied at least five miles, but I made a mistake telling them a good gravel bar down stream would make a good campsite. They thanked us and paddled down stream a short distance to set camp. After dinner, we returned to the water and fished until dark finding a few cooperative small mouth bass. The neighbors below decided to shoot off a few rounds from their shot gun and touched off fire works. So, the peace and quiet and the sounds of nature were interrupted by exploding gun powder. It continued until 9 PM, it should be noted; gun fire or fire works could be heard from several locations away from the river, it could have been upset neighbors, farmers and probably property owners. It seems we forget when on the river; we are guest and should be on our best behavior. It only takes one confrontational event from the canoeist/campers and land owners to ruin it for others.



On the third day (Monday) we woke at 7 AM, Kevin heated water for coffee and prepared breakfast. We broke camp, repacked the canoe and fished our way down stream to Crane Creek which was three miles down stream. Again, the sun was bright with some bluffs along the way providing shade on the water. The area above Crane Creek should have provided excellent fishing in the late afternoon with a good bottom and large rocks on the opposite bank, but was too bright and sunny when we fished it in the morning. The float below Crane Creek to Kerr Access provided a few more areas to fish. Once below Kerr access, the water is much deeper with very few spots to wade, more canoe traffic and cabins on the stream. It should be no surprise to see people swimming and playing in the water, it was Labor Day Weekend. We ended our journey after 1 PM, and returned to James River Outfitters where our vehicles parked for the past two days. Kevin and I left the camp grounds to return to our homes.

I returned home to wash my gear, dry the sleeping bag, tent and repacked for the next day. I was to meet Jim Scheve at 5 AM to begin our trip on the Eleven Point River. Where we camped and fished for two days. I will provide an article on the Eleven Point River in next month's newsletter.

I do enjoy my time on the rivers in Missouri and hope some of you will take advantage of the cooler fall weather to get out and enjoy our Ozark streams and rivers.

Kim

2007 MTFA -Springfield Chapter Officers

President	John Dozier	753-9118
1st Vice President	Charles Gregory	833-3169
2nd Vice President	David Duncan	833-3562
Secretary	Dorothy Prugger	862-9972
Treasurer	Rod Pennington	883-1789

Monthly meetings at the Springfield Nature Center.
The first Thursday of the month at 6 PM for
Fly tying and 7 PM for programs and business
meeting.

Education Chair - Charlie Erickson

Social Chair - Simecek/Collison/Burkhart

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Equipment - John Prugger

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FFF Contact - Howard Hawkins

CFM/MTFA Contact - Rod Pennington

Public Relations - John and Dorothy Prugger

The web site:
MTFA-Springfield.org

E-mail:
MTFA_Springfield@yahoo.com
Send Articles to:
Ekanderson@hotmail.com