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# MO Fishing

June 2008

Volume 10 No. 6

## June MTFA meeting program will be Thursday, June 5, 2008 at the Nature Center

Kevin Hess – Water Pollution Section Chief – Southwest Regional Office  
Darrick Steen – P. E. Animal Waste Unit Chief (CAFO)

Both are with Missouri Department of Natural Resources will provide the program for the June MTFA meeting Thursday night June 5<sup>th</sup> at the Springfield Nature Center.

The Program, starting at 7 pm will include a Power Point presentation and discussion on DNR's responsibilities relating to Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO). Monitoring, Licensing and proposed new regulations will be some of the topics covered and there will be plenty of time to ask questions.

### Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association - Springfield Chapter Activities for June 2008

|                  |       |  |
|------------------|-------|--|
| <b>June 5</b>    | ..... | Regular Meeting @ 6 PM Springfield Nature Center |
| <b>June 7,8</b>  | ..... | Jolly Mill Mini Conclave                         |
| <b>June 7</b>    | ..... | Fellows Lake Picnic 11 am to 2 pm                |
| <b>June 7, 8</b> | ..... | Free Fishing Weekend                             |
| <b>June 14</b>   | ..... | Fish Fry outing at Memorial Park @ (4PM - 8PM)   |

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### MTFA Fish Fry

Please note the June fish fry has been rescheduled. It was to be June 7<sup>th</sup>, but with all the other activities on that day, it was moved to June 14<sup>th</sup> at the Memorial Park on Chrisman Road. Joe will have more details at Thursday's meeting. Thanks and do not forget to bring a dish. Plastic ware, plates and drinks will be provided.

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### **Fellow Lake picnic**

The Fellow Lake picnic is June 7th from 11am to 2pm, there will be a dunk tank, balloon house, ring toss games, a snow-cone machine, foot wash and massage, pop corn machine, music, hot dogs, hamburgers, sodas, chips, just picnic stuff, will be something for everybody; every one welcome. I am looking for two individuals to tie flies for this event. The locals at the lake just love this sort of thing, I usually tie, but it's tough to cook and tie at the same time, thanks Charlie

For more information contact: Charlie at Thursday meeting or email him at [coppen@peoplepc.com](mailto:coppen@peoplepc.com)

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### **Discover Nature-Women**

June 6-8, 2008 Rod Pennington, Kevin Smith and Kim Schultz will attend Missouri Department of Conservation's Discover Nature-Women at Windermere Conference Center on the Lake of the Ozarks. There are one hundred and sixty participants for the three days of instruction which includes camping, archery, canoeing hiking and many more opportunities to discover in the outdoors. We will teach two fly tying and two fly-casting classes with approximately sixty signed up. We will approach the class much the same way as MSU. This will be exciting; we anticipate an enthusiastic group of women and new fly fishers beginning their journey with a fly rod in hand. ...Rod/Kevin/Kim

### **A Story about A Hat**

Larry Wegmann

This is a fishing story that starts with the purchase of a hat. Robbie and I were working on the Bass Pro *History Of Fly Fishing* display when he told me about a new hat at the outlet store. A great deal for \$10, a new hat identical to my \$50 winter hat, and a better fit.

My new hat season started with the first day of Catch and Release. Huge trophies were stocked, naïve and strong. On the second weekend of the season I returned to Roaring River and the trophies were still taking my bunny leeches with regularity. Perhaps too regularly, because a really old dude started following me every time I changed pools. He said he had noticed me last week wearing my hat and catching fish. Each pool change brought another cascade of questions, "what are you changing to now?" "what size tippet are you using?", "where do you find those flies, I have not seen them at Tim's?" I finally took my truck to another area to escape the onslaught of questions. After an hour without a 4 pounder, I returned to the original area and saw my friend Flip from the NW Arkansas Morning News. He told me about this old dude that was asking him what flies he was using and so on. We were talking for less than 30 seconds when our new 250 pound leech shows up. He tells Flip that I have the secret fly and he needed to "wrestle" away my fly box. Flip writes a couple more notes for this year's article on Roaring River and leaves me saying "Good Luck with the old guy!" I said he is noteworthy and Flip agreed.

I took refuge in my truck to have lunch and was dismayed to notice the old guy was sitting in his truck 25 feet away, watching me, probably stalking me. Sure enough, when I get started again, he follows me to waters edge. I decided it was time to scratch the itch. I gave him three leeches of different shades. He thanked me and said he would send them to his son in St. Louis to tie up some more.

Next weekend, I return to the work on my trophy addiction. Linda, my wife, came along. I wanted to introduce her to the challenge of fighting a four pound trout. I am again wearing my new hat, because Linda has a definite opinion of being around me with some of my choices of head apparel. This particular hat was a least a neutral affect on her. I had just finished rigging her fly rod and my old nemesis shows up telling Linda I can catch more big fish than anyone else. I sense a black cloud over my head and a probable hex approaching anytime when someone throws a statement like that in my direction!

This week the trophies are still striking and the old guy decides that Linda is going to release my true secret of fishing. She pleads innocence and he latches onto me again. I need to know who this is and get him talking about himself. His name is Leo. He retired to Eureka Springs and worked at the Arsenal Street ammunition plant in South St. Louis. We shared a few remembrances about St. Louis and he sat down on the bench to let us continue fishing.

Every trip this winter to Roaring River found Leo and me exchanging a few new stories and I was beginning to share his frustration as the trout became better educated.

The first Wednesday of catch season, Leo found me again. I was still wearing my hat he told me and I said that I had been waiting for him to find me. He finally informed me that his son declared that I had given him a Clouser Minnow and the secret was out. I looked at him decided that the difference in a bunny leech and Clouser was not worthy of comment. As we were complaining about fishing, Leo found a "feel good" comment. He was celebrating his 87<sup>th</sup> birthday today. I patted him on the shoulder, wishing him a Happy Birthday and hoping that I would get to the same age and be able to get around like him. Leo turned and looked me straight in the eye and said, "You will, you fish and anyone that fishes enjoys life to an old age!" I hope that his twisted logic would become a benediction for at least a couple of years. We talked a while longer about the frustrations of the day. Leo complained that the park cut down all his trees where he acquired his flies. As I was walking away, I realized that Leo needed a trophy for his birthday. I walked back and dug out my best Czech nymph to give him for a birthday present. He asked for a name for the nymph, which may change the next time I see Leo, by his own declaration. I told him not to lose it because it takes me several tries to get it right.

It is getting warmer now and the next time I go to Roaring River, I may not be wearing my winter hat. I wonder how Leo will find me and I will miss him if he fails. Many times fishing goes beyond catching. This winter was one of those seasons.

Letter from Solutions Alternative School to the  
MTFA members

Solutions Alternative School  
1518 Dale Street  
Springfield, MO 65803

To Whom It May Concern:

The tie flying club that we have been fortunate to be associated with over the past several years ( Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association, Springfield, MO) have provided instruction, time, and a wealth of experience to teach our kids life long skills that can provide years of enjoyment. They selflessly donate time out of their days to come to our school and work with our group of alternative students extending an alternative approach that may in fact change their view point of life in general.

The students come from single parent and broken homes, have been suspended from schools for their behaviors that cover a large range of offenses from absenteeism to disruptive behaviors and many are adjudicated by the courts for incidents in which they have been involved. I would highly recommend that this group of gentlemen and ladies be provided any assistance that would be made available to allow them to grow this product the(students) they continue to develop through our school to greater heights.

For a number of years they have taught our students that become involved in the program to tie flies, cast a fly rod, and taken them to Bennett Springs to allow them to have a day in which they can practice the skills that they have learned.

Teacher Solutions,



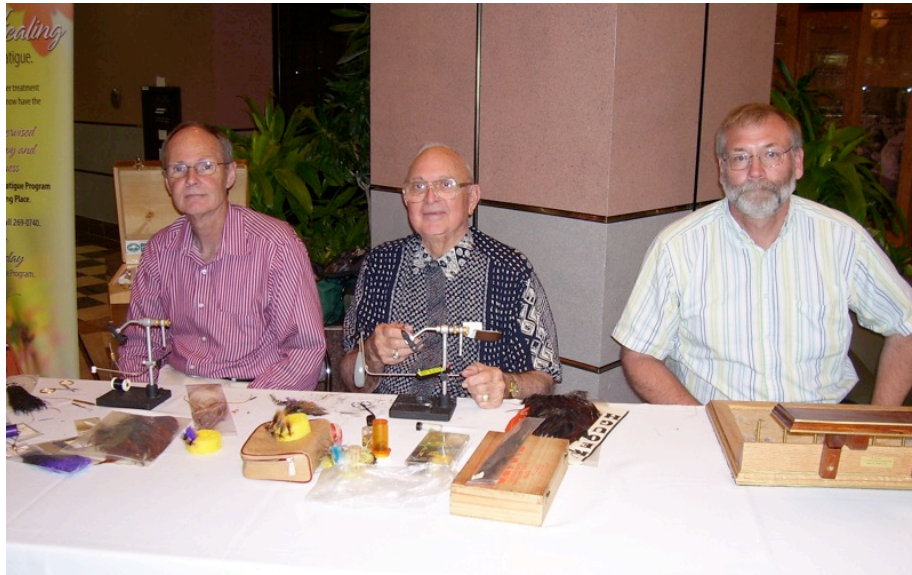
James W. Kilpatric

### Solutions

Another huge Thank You goes to Norman, Kim, Joe, Jerald, John, Ralph, Connie, Dorothy, Larry and Charlie for their help with the Solutions students at Pepperdine School on May 13 and 21'st. Comments from the teachers and the students show that our efforts with these alternative school students have been very much appreciated. These young people really need a positive adult role model and hopefully we have helped with this need. (See the letter from their teacher in the News Letter)

## Hulston Cancer Center

Rod has been invited by the Hulston Cancer Center staff to demonstrate fly tying to the public in the lobby. Rod and Herb on several occasions have tied a variety of flies and tell of fishing opportunities in the Ozarks. Patients and family on their way to treatments or doctor appointments will stop of a moment to ask questions or comment on their past experiences fishing. It is another opportunity to speed the word of the outstanding fishing in the Ozarks. Rod Pennington, Herb Knight and Kim Schultz Pictured below



## MSU / Charles Erickson

I want to say a huge Thank You, Thank You, Thank You, to the 22 committed members of our Springfield MTFA chapter that gave of their time and talent in order to make the Spring 08 fly fishing class another huge success. I am not naming names for each of you knows who you are. I am also afraid that I might leave someone out and for that I would feel very bad. The only bad part of this class was the high and muddy water at Bennett during our field trip, for this we have no control.

As all of you know, the money made from these classes at MSU, is the basis for our budget. All members enjoy all social events and programs. If you could not help us with this spring class be sure to thank the members for their effort and dedication to the goals of our club that make everything we do possible. Hopefully some members not able to help with this spring class will be able to help this next fall. The next fall class will begin on Thursday August 28 and continue each week on Thursday evening in September with the field trip on Saturday, September 27. If we all mark our calendars now we should be able to keep these dates open and have plenty of help for the next class.

For your information I have put together some data to show you what the MSU class has accomplished for our club. We started teaching this class in the fall of 2002 and have taught 168 young women and men the joys of fly-fishing. Many of these young people have continued with the sport, and we hope they will pass this knowledge along to others.

The financial assistance to our club has been \$13,776. It is with this money that we finance our clubs programs and activities. (Speakers, News Letter, Socials, Materials for Youth Groups, and Etc.)

From: Jim.Low@mdc.mo.gov  
Subject: [Mdcnews] May 30 All Outdoors - **Anglers asked not to dump bait**  
Date: May 29, 2008 8:59:15 AM CDT  
To: [mdcnews@lists.mo.gov](mailto:mdcnews@lists.mo.gov).

Disposing of unused bait properly helps keep Missouri waters healthy

JEFFERSON CITY-You're done fishing and packing up poles, coolers and other gear. What do you do with that bucket of minnows or box of worms? Dump it on the ground or in the water, right?

Wrong. According to the Missouri Department of Conservation, dumping bait is illegal and among the worst things you can do.

"The trouble with dumping bait is that you really don't know what you are turning loose," said Tim Banek, the invasive species coordinator for the Missouri Department of Conservation. "A dozen minnows might include exotic species that could displace native species. A leftover crayfish could be a rusty crayfish, which is an ecological disaster waiting to happen. Believe it or not, night crawlers might come from as far away as Canada. We are not sure how well any of these animals might survive in Missouri, what native species they might displace or devour and how they could harm the ecological balance here in the long run."

Far too often Banek gets reminders of why proper bait disposal is imperative. The Missouri Department of Conservation recently discovered that a Kansas City, Kansas, wholesaler had supplied Missouri bait dealers with minnows contaminated with brook stickleback, a small, spiny fish found in northern states. Bait dealers were quickly notified to check their tanks and destroy any brook sticklebacks found. Anglers who purchased the bait prior to the discovery of the contamination risked contaminating their favorite fishing waters by releasing unused bait at the end of their fishing trips.

Banek said the right thing to do with left-over bait is to put it in a trash can or other approved trash container at the fishing site or take it home and put it in your household trash.

"I know it is hard to imagine that a minnow or an earthworm could be dangerous, but it is true," said Banek. "It is impossible to closely regulate interstate or even international trade in bait. As a result, some potentially dangerous species are going to turn up in bait shops. That doesn't have to be a problem if people are careful about how they handle those animals." -Jim Low-

For more information about invasive species, visit  
[www.mdc.mo.gov/landown/invasive.htm](http://www.mdc.mo.gov/landown/invasive.htm).

Mdcnews mailing list

[Mdcnews@lists.mo.gov](mailto:Mdcnews@lists.mo.gov)

<http://lists.mo.gov/mailman/listinfo/mdcnews>

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