



[www.MTFA-Springfield.org](http://www.MTFA-Springfield.org)

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# MO Fishing

**April 2010**

**Volume 3 No. 4**

The April meeting will be Thursday, April 1st, at the Springfield Nature Center are the Times will be 6 PM for fly tying and 7 PM for programs and business meeting.

Our speaker for the April meeting will be Ty Ingram a long time resident of the Ozarks. Ty has worked at local fly shops, guiding on local waters, fishing the waters in Arkansas and Missouri. Ty will provide us with information to fish local waters: targeting the fish, time of the year and the right gear. Hope you will be able attend to learn more about fly-fishing Ozarks from a local fisherman.

## **Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association - Springfield Chapter Activities for April 2010**

April 1	Regular Meeting Fly Tying @ 6 PM Meeting @ 7 PM
April 8	MSU Class 6 PM
April 15	MSU Class 6 PM
April 22	MSU Class 6 PM
April 29	MSU Class 6 PM

### **April 30-May 1 - Smallmouth Rendezvous**

Held in Tahlequah, OK. The Smallmouth Rendezvous and Fly Tying Extravaganza is a great fly tying event for tiers of all levels. Even if you are a novice, you will have fun tying flies and visiting with other fly tyers. There is no set schedule, just sign up, come in, pull up a chair, and tie a fly on Friday and Saturday. For more information or to sign up, contact Chuck Harrison.

Larry Wegmann

## **April Events to Know About:**

### **April 17 - Tri-Lakes Fly Fishing Expo Missouri's largest Fly Fishing Show**

Tri-Lakes Fly Fishers will be holding their annual Expo at the Brighton Assembly of God Church from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. in Brighton, MO. located on N Highway 13 just N of Hwy 215 intersection. Admission is free to the public and all demonstrations and programs are free as well.

Over 30 of the most creative and outstanding fly tiers from seven states will exhibit their skills throughout the day. The expo also offers programs on basic fly casting and with instructors providing free instruction. Commercial exhibitors will display and sell their wares while the church's youth group will serve meals, snacks, and desserts throughout the day.

The club will offer door prizes, bucket raffles, silent auctions, and a live auction. The Expo is the Tri-Lakes club's only fundraiser, with the proceeds used to support their public service projects that include Bolivar High School's Outdoor Education Class, Casting for Recovery, Project Healing Waters, and community outdoor education events.

The Expo location is 9 miles south of Bolivar and 14 miles north of Springfield beside the northbound lane of Highway 13 less than half a mile north of the Highway 215 junction.

For more Information contact Rex Warren or Terry Wilson at (417) 777-2467

### **From the FFF March Newsletter, In case anyone wants to have an excuse to visit Yellowstone this summer:**

#### **- National Fly Fishing Fair & Conclave – Education, Inspiration, Celebration –**

August 26 – 28, 2010 – West Yellowstone, Montana

West Yellowstone has to be on of the all time favorite locations for the FFF annual gathering. You can bring the entire family and be assured of finding many things to do that fly fishing enthusiasts as well as family members can enjoy.

One of the great things about the Fly Fishing Fair is that there are many activities going on at any time. Primarily the FFF presents the Fair to provide an educational experience for the beginner fly fisher to the advanced by providing topics on anything and everything about fly fishing. These opportunities come in the form of workshops which are available for a fee, to other offerings such as free programs and demonstrations.

Workshops will start on Tuesday August 24 and run through Saturday August 28. They are presented by experts on topics such as fly tying, fly casting, rod building, and on water fishing. Workshops with a classroom setting will take place in various locations including the Holiday Inn, the high school, and various other meeting spaces. On water classes will take the attendee to nearby stream and standing water locations. In addition to general workshops, there will be a women's program and a kid's camp.

For those interested in attending the Exhibit hall and free demonstrations these will be available during August 26-28. The exhibit hall will be located at the Union Pacific Dining Hall with indoor and some outdoor spaces that will include both commercial and non-profit exhibitors. Entrance to the Fair is included with your advanced registration or by just showing up and paying the day pass fee.

The day pass fee can be purchased at the show and is only \$5.00 for adults, kids 15 and under are free when accompanied by an adult. Saturday August 28 will be FREE entry for everyone.

Costs to take workshops vary so check our schedules and registration pages on our website at [www.federationconclave.org](http://www.federationconclave.org) for more information. It is requested to sign up in advance, however we will be offering numerous walk-up workshops on-site.

#### **- National Fly Fishing Fair & Conclave – Lodging Options -**

Click here to see list <http://www.federationconclave.org/Default.aspx?tabid=4868>

**- FFF -**

## **What the Springfield MTFA Chapter has meant to Norm Collison**

**By Norm Collison and Kim Schultz**

Norm Collison wants to express his feelings and reflections of the MTFA club to the members. He is a member of the club for almost thirty-five years, a veteran of the Korean War, worked for Inland printing Co. and a retired employee of Assembly of God headquarters.

Years ago, Norm fished with Paul Henry and through acquaintances met Don Pennington and Bill Butts Sr. Norm became interested to learn more about fly-fishing and joined the MTFA. Norm remembers great friends from the beginning: Paul Henry, Don Pennington, L.D. Griffith, Ed Kosuth, Bill Butts Sr. and Sheryl "Pappy" Lorts. Norm said, "I remember the great friends I have met along the way, some very, very good friends." The members from that early membership have dwindled to Herb and Norma Knight, Rod Pennington, and his wife, Virginia.

He learned to fly fish from the members of the club and credits Bill Butts Jr. for mentoring him in the beginning by teaching him to tie flies and cast a line. Today, the club has new members; Norm has found new fishing friends, Joe Simecek and Jerald Burkhart.

The club was more social in the beginning, with a meager budget. It was a family oriented club with a number of picnics and fish fry outings for the young families. As the years passed, the club became more involved with the community by teaching and fly tying demonstrations at Bass Pro and the MDC. The club is currently teaching at MSU, continues outings with the MDC and Bass Pro Shops.

The Springfield group is one of three chapter clubs of the Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association and affiliated with the FFF, within the boundaries of the Southern Council. Norm recalls several trips to Mountain Home for the Southern Council Conclave. He met some of the big names in the fly-fishing world: Lefty Kreh, Dave Whitlock. Gary and Jason Borger.

Norm attends nearly every club function and activity. He enjoys helping others to get started by supplementing their supplies, giving away his own materials or sitting down with a youngster to teach the art of fly tying. Over the years, Norm has passed on his knowledge to his brothers (Ray, John, Dan and Bill) with whom he has enjoyed fishing with for years; they now all fly fish due to Norm's influence. Norm's collections of flies from past conclaves have been shared with Bill, his brother and can be seen on display at D&E Plumbing in Nixa.

Norm is a pillar of the MTFA club serving as an example to active participation and sharing. He is active with the Lions Club and has an interest for beekeeping. Norm is an active member of Glad Tidings Assembly of God Church.

Finally, a club is a place for people with a common interest coming together. For Norm, it is a place to find life long friends. The MTFA club has meant a great deal to Norm and he hopes MTFA will continue to serve as a place for others to find people with similar interest and possibly find a fishing friend.



**Norm at the MSU Fishing Class  
His patience and kindness are very appreciated, by all.**

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**An open letter to MTFA sent via email:**

Hello,

My name is Kevin Calhoun and I am the coordinator for volunteers for the Reel Recovery Retreat this spring at Spring Valley Anglers on Spavinaw Creek near Gravette, Arkansas. The dates for this retreat are April 19th - 21st. For those who don't know what Reel Recovery is, it is a non-profit organization, 501(c) (3), which provides retreats for men who have or have had any kind of cancer, all at no cost to the participants. During these retreats, men will have the opportunity to come together for 'courageous conversations', with a certified counselor, enjoy dining together and spend time on a stream learning to fly fish and forget their cancer.

My job is to gather enough 'river buddies' to help each participant, one on one, learn to fly fish and help them catch fish or just sit with them and talk. We need up to fifteen river buddies. You have been contacted because of your ability to fly fish. You do not have to be a guide, just be willing to share your knowledge and passion for fly fishing and helping your fellow man.

The schedule for this years retreat is Monday; the participants will arrive and check in to there cabins, meet the other participants, have a group session, dinner and prepare for the following day. Tuesday, the participants will have breakfast, then a morning group session, then meet the river buddies and pair up for a morning fishing session on the stream. Lunch will be provided to participants and river buddies, then an afternoon fishing session with a different river buddy. Wednesday, river buddies will pair up with a new partner, after they have had breakfast and another group session, for a morning fishing session. We will all then have lunch followed by a closing ceremony for the participants and volunteers.

I know that the retreat being held during the week will make it difficult for some of you to be able to volunteer, but you don't have to take three days off, you can volunteer for the morning or afternoon fishing session Tuesday, or the morning fishing session Wednesday, which would only be a half day of volunteering. For those who can, we are working on some accommodations for those who would like to camp out during the retreat. The only stipulation for volunteering is that Spring Valley Anglers requires rubber 'vibram' soled wading boots for fishing Spavinaw Creek, NO FELT SOLED BOOTS ALLOWED. All fishing tackle, waders and boots will be provided for the participants. Volunteers are only required to have wading gear. Your fishing vest/pack with flies, tippet, etc. is optional, but would be helpful while fishing with your partner.

If you are interested in volunteering, please go to [reelrecovery.org](http://reelrecovery.org) and fill out the volunteer form. This will help me consolidate all the volunteers and have contact information for each volunteer. Also, if you have a family member, friend or someone you know who has cancer or has had cancer and think this retreat might be good for them, please have them fill out a participant request form at [reelrecovery.org](http://reelrecovery.org). If you have any further questions you can contact me by email or phone. Be Well! Fish On!

Sincerely,

**Kevin Calhoun**

[featherminnow@yahoo.com](mailto:featherminnow@yahoo.com)

(479) 856-3087

*The web site:*

**[MTFA-Springfield.org](http://MTFA-Springfield.org)**

*E-mail:*

**[MTFA\\_Springfield@yahoo.com](mailto:MTFA_Springfield@yahoo.com)**

**Send Articles to:**

**[ekanderson@hotmail.com](mailto:ekanderson@hotmail.com)**

## 2010 MTFA -Springfield Chapter Officers

<b>President</b>	Charles Erickson	890-7243
<b>President Elect</b>	Ralph Eichholz	343-2591
<b>Secretary</b>	Dorothy Prugger	862-9972
<b>Treasurer</b>	Rod Pennington	883-1789
<b>3 Year Board Members</b>	Russ Doughty, Kevin Smith	
<b>2 Year Board Member</b>	Bill Huyett, Kim Schultz	
<b>1 Year Board Member</b>	Crete Deerfield & Connie Erickson	

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

**Committee Chairs**

**Program Chair** – Kim Schultz  
**Education Chair** – Larry Wegmann  
**Social Chair** - Connie Erickson  
**Newsletter Editor** – Eve Krit-Anderson,  
**Newsletter Advisory Editor** - Kim Shultz  
**Librarian** – Kevin Smith  
**Equipment/Supplies** - John Prugger/Howard Hawkins  
**Web Page** - Brent Simmons  
**Membership Chair** – Larry Wegmann  
**Liaison Natl./State FFA** – Rod Pennington  
**Public Relations** – Kevin Smith

**If you would like to submit for the NL,  
Please put MTFA in the subject line.**