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MO Fishing

The Newsletter of the Springfield Chapter of the
Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association
Formed in 1972 to serve all fishermen in the Springfield area

May 2020

Volume 14 No.5

The May Meeting is Cancelled

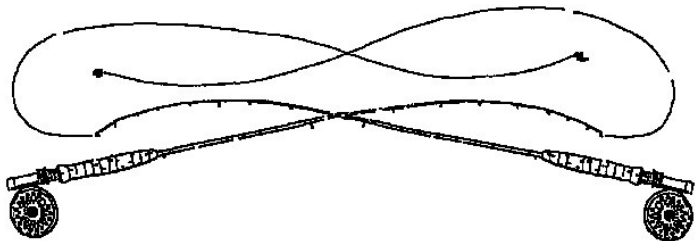
The 2020 MTFA State Derby is Cancelled

State Trout Park Reopenings:

BSSP and RRSP:

MDC will begin restocking the night of May 15. Trout tags will be required May 16. Tag sales begin at 5:30am. Horn blows to signal fishing at 6:30am. The Bennett Spring Store says the store and lodging will reopen on May 15 and the restaurant will open for take out.

Campgrounds closed until May 18th



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MTFA Derby News:

The State MTFA Derby was scheduled for May 17 & 18. It was cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. The question lingered within the State Council concerning the possibility of holding it later this summer. The preferred location at Bennett Spring State Park is Pavilion B near the Whistle Bridge. There were only two dates available for that location, one in July and one in August. After some online discussion with the Board of Directors and a lot of deliberation, State Council President Greg Darlington cancelled the Derby for the year. Hopefully, it will be held again next May with the Saint Louis Chapter being in charge of the proceedings once again. Greg wrote, "With the welfare of the membership in mind, I have decided to cancel the derby this year. This was not an easy decision to make but I believe it is the correct one."

Chapter News:

The Picnic We Didn't Have: In case you didn't know that you missed it, we were trying to organize a picnic in April along with a fishing trip to Mountain Springs Trout Park.

The June Fish Fry is cancelled. Get out there and catch some white bass and crappie anyway. Just social distance while doing it. We don't want you to give any fish the virus.

Don't give it to or catch it from any of your fishing buddies either.

The MSU Beginning Fly Fishing Course is continuing online and is nearly finished. It was quite a challenge to figure out how to present the course this way when the skills portions were not practiced. I only hope they developed enough interest to take it up again at a later date. Bob Randall

Fishing Reports:

--3/27 MDC waived requirement to have a permit or trout tag to fish. Waiver was planned to last from Friday, March 27, through April 15.

--3/28 & 3/29 Reports are that many anglers descended on the state trout parks and literally filled their coolers with trout, ignoring the limits and fishing regulations that were still in effect.

—3/29 Dick Soloman said he went to Bennett Spring and it was worse than opening day. Cars parked all the way from the spring to the river.

--4/8 Bob Randall went fishing at BSSP. Mentally prepared to turn around and leave if the place was at all crowded. From the spring to the river there were 35 people total with just a few anglers. Few fish were spotted in the usual good spots. Bob landed four fish, one of which wasn't a trout. He had another four or five on and played them before they got off, and another ten or so strikes with unsuccessful hook sets. Flies used were scuds, midges, and a pheasant tail nymph.

--4/8 Dick Soloman reported few fish at RRSP. Apparently, the fish were cleaned out there as well.

--4/8 Todd Fecho reported a post from Tim's Fly Shop near RRSP saying "that once MDC suspended daily trout tags and fishing licenses that the stream was fished out in 4-7 days with people taking sometimes double the limit of fish or more. Very sad and when wardens tried to give tickets and enforce limits they were met with threats and open hostility." Todd says, "I worry that once the stream get stocked again these same "unsporting" people will be back."

--4/11 John Bush went to RRSP. He walked the bank for the catch and release area, and was able to successfully spot around 15 or 20 fish "I only ended up with one fish to the net."

--4/13 Bob went again to BSSP. Landed 12 fish. Flies were scuds, midges, and a small bead head prince nymph.

—4/15 Mike Kidd caught fish on Taneycomo from a boat. Too much water to wade fish.

--4/16 John Bush and Dick Solomon went to BSSP. John landed 30 or 40 fish. Dick had a bunch as well. John's last fish of the day was a 19 or 20 inch rainbow that was probably 4 or 5 pounds. John was using a root beer midge, a Mercury flashback pheasant tail. Dick used a shammy worm, a hares ear, and a top secret midge. They were both cautious to keep social distancing as well. afternoon.

--4/21 Bob Randall fished BSSP. Landed 12 fish caught on scuds and midges.

—4/30 Dick Soloman and Bob Randall, BSSP, total caught 60+, hares ear nymph (black and brown, size 16 & 14), TS midge brown and green, san juan worm, grey sowbug.

—5/2 John Bush fished BSSP. Caught 30+ on root beer midge and a Dorsey's pattern midge.

Gear Reviews

<https://www.yellowstoneangler.com/gear-review/>

Fishing Pics

Dick Soloman

(in case you didn't recognize him with a beard)
at Bennett Spring



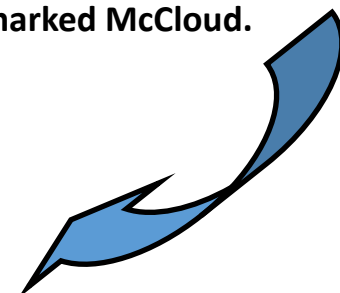
Bennett Spring
Nice color.
Bob Randall



Bruce Hinkston with his personal biggest fish taken on a fly rod. Fly was a San Juan Worm. Fly fishing for carp has become a real sport in the last few years.



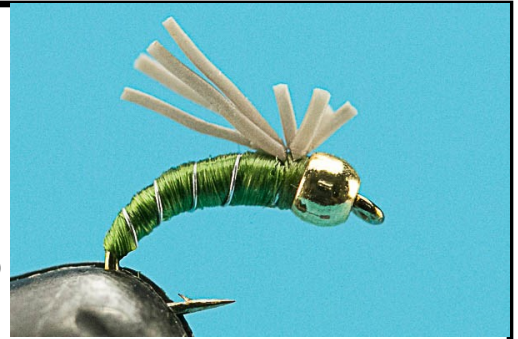
Mike Kidd, nice bow on left.
The one on the right is a parr
marked McCloud.



Fly of the Month:

I watched another angler who seemed to have some success at BSSP. I asked him across the water what fly he was using. He told me it was a Three Dollar Dip. I had never heard of that fly before. He offered to give me one of them. It is common, in the fly fishing "hood", for a conversation to lead to an exchange of flies. I thanked him but insisted on social distancing. He described it and I looked it up later.

John Bush uses a similar fly (Dorsey's Top Secret Midge) with success. The wings and gills are bleached deer hair. Three Dollar Dip is the nickname given to a variation of a Serendipity that works well on the Madison River in Montana, including the Three Dollar Bridge area. It can be tied in many colors but I was told that green works well at BSSP. Bob Randall



<https://howtoflyfish.orvis.com/fly-tying-videos/nymph-flies/860-three-dollar-dip>

Hook: Scud/pupa hook, size 16

Bead: Nickel, 3/32-inch

Thread/body: Green, 6/0 or 140-denier

Rib: silver wire, fine

Wingbud: Bleached deer hair (not in the photo. Only pic with green thread I could find)

In Vince Marinaro's book from the 1970's, "In the Ring of the Rise", "If the rise is splashy, often it means they are taking adult caddis off of, or just above the surface.



If you see a sipping fish, and you see the mouth or head breaking the surface, they are taking adult mayflies, midges, or stoneflies off of the surface.

If you see a back, a dorsal fin break the surface, but no head, they are taking emergers or pupae just below the surface."



Home Made Rod Holder

- 1/2" schedule 40 pvc pipe (two 10" lengths, four 3" lengths, two 1" lengths)
 - two caps, two tees, two elbows
 - pvc cement
 - four magnets (I bought mine from Harbor Freight, video suggests using microwave magnets)
 - two bungies with a plastic ball
- Need a drill, 1/4" bit, hack saw

[https://www.bing.com/videos/search?](https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=youtube+magnetic+fly+rod+holder&&view=detail&mid=9D0C81C0229D7E4D414C9D0C81C0229D7E4D414C&&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Dyoutube%2520magnetic%2520fly%2520rod%2520holder%26qs%3Dn%26form%3DQBVRMH%26sp%3D-1%26pq%3Dyoutube%2520magnetic%2520fly%2520rod%2520holder%26sc%3D0-31%26sk%3D%26cvid%3D524E09A6F93E4B37A4076EEB0ED9C8F6)

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One Leg Modification: Since no surfaces on my truck are flat, the two leg model never seemed to sit right. Besides, the rods slid around a little on the smooth bar. I cut it all down so that I had a single leg. It sits better. Also when I took the double legs out, I had to put in couplers. That inadvertently created areas for rods to sit without sliding. I was dissatisfied with the microwave magnets. I put flat pvc caps on the bottom of the legs and screwed the magnets to the bottom of the caps. Caution: this might scratch your paint job. Consider adding felt to the magnets or simply put a bandana under it.



I would not drive faster than 30 mph with these things, that's just right in the trout parks. I also found that it's just as easy to use one holder on the back edge of the truck cab and lay the rod butt and reel in the truck bed. Don't drive under low hanging branches.

I cannot claim this as an original idea. Phil Crockett made the YouTube video.

Bob Randall



It Takes a Fly Fisher to Understand: Most of us fly fishers, drive to our fishing spot with our fly rods dismantled. Those of us who don't, either risk breaking our rod tips or have a special full length "rod safe" mounted on our vehicles. Who cares? Well, when you leave the house at oh-dark-thirty, drive for an hour, park, put on your wade gear, assemble your rod, thread the line through the guides, attach your leader, tippet, and fly, only to have somebody else step into your favorite fishing hole just as you are almost ready, it's called "fly fishing rage". I just made that up.

Here's a story about a fly fisher who built a "rod safe" out of pvc pipe and dressed it up to look like an air to air missile. He was an airline pilot, so he parked at the airport. His suv was facing the runway. Now, he was unaware that the First Lady's plane would land while he was away. Of course, the Secret Service was quite distressed. The story involves bomb sniffing dogs (didn't alert because there was no bomb), the local police, the airport security and the pilot's terrified wife who didn't know what it was either. The head of airport security was also a fly fisher. He spotted a fly fishing decal on the car and immediately understood that it was a dressed up "rod safe". It takes a fly fisher to understand.



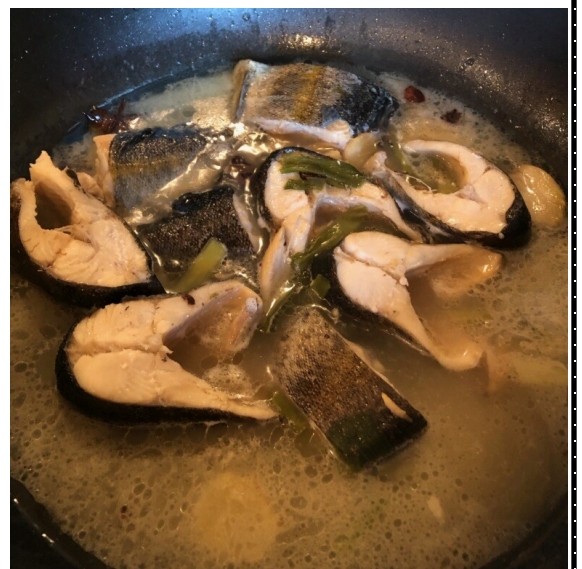
Trout Soup Recipe:

Heat pot with plenty of veg oil, add fish, 4 thin slices of ginger, 2 chopped green onion, salt, and touch of vodka

add water, cook on high for 10 minutes
reduce flame, cover, cook on low for 1 hour

I gave my neighbors some fish. She was born and raised in China so this is an Asian dish.

Her parents fished a lot when she was growing up.



Taking guesses on what you think the weight is

Edit: the fish was released right after the photo was taken. And we sadly had no way of weighing it so all your guesses are as good as ours.



This screenshot and post on the left came from a friend. I do not know anything about the truthfulness of the picture or the information. It doesn't look Photo-shopped. Supposedly the fish was taken at Montauk State Park.

No, I don't know the answer. I've never weighed a fish in my life.

Hey, Keith Coffey. You're always talking about that five pounder your wife caught. What do you think?

Bob Radall

From River Run Outfitters April 21 Facebook page: Finally shut down the spillways yesterday morning. Generation pattern is now the equivalent of two to three generators during the day. MAYBE we are getting closer to seeing low or no flow. Would that be novel?!!!

Editors Note: Generation levels have generally remained high. However, at the time of this writing, it looks like one generator will run up until noon, then two and then three as the day progresses.

Older newsletters through 2007 are archived here: <http://www.mtfa-springfield.org/news-events/newsletter/newsletter-archive/>

If you would like to submit an article for the MTFA newsletter, please put MTFA NL in the email subject line and send to Bob Randall: bobbyleensandy@gmail.com

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