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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

July 2021

Volume 15 No.07

## The July Meeting is Cancelled

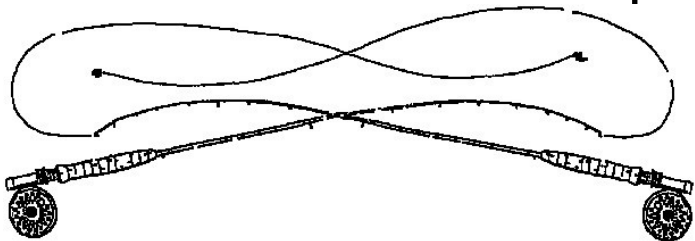
However:

The Branson Fly Fishing Expo will be Thursday, Friday, and Saturday July 29, July 30 and July 31 2021 at the Branson Lions Club, 1015 E State Highway 76, Branson, MO 65915 From the Branson Landing, cross the bridge over the lake, 3/4 around the roundabout toward Kirbyville, up the hill and on the left.

Thursday July 29th Noon – 5 pm. Friday July 30th 9 am. – 5 pm. Saturday July 31st 9 am. – 4 pm.

Fly Casting Demos - Fly Tying Demos - Classes Raffles, Silent, and Live Auctions - Many Local Exhibitors. Food and drinks for sale.

Free Admission. For more information contact Ron Leggins, Expo Director (912) 980-0766 or [ronleggins@gmail.com](mailto:ronleggins@gmail.com)



I discovered a website called Keep Fish Wet. [Link to it here](#). It's about improving the chances of survival of caught-and-released fish. Notice that caught-and-released is the past tense of catch-and-release. It isn't just about getting them back in the water ... eventually.

What is the survival rate of fish you release given the way you "play", handle, and release them? The website includes the science of catch-and-release, best practices, fish slime, photography, and more.

1. If a fish can swim away on its own, let it. If you're gently gripping it by the tail, and it wiggles as if to swim away, that's good. If it just sits there, it might need help.
2. If you tilt a fish back and forth, it's eye should roll, almost tracking you. If its eyes demonstrate a blank, fixed stare without movement, that's a problem.
3. If the trout cannot right itself if you roll it on its side, within three seconds, that's another problem. If those things happen, you might go into revival mode, keeping the fish in the water in your rubberized net, facing into the gentle current, still handling with wet hands as little and as softly as possible. And when they do want to swim away, let them do it.

*Bob Randall*

### Springfield Chapter Officers

**President: Dan Ditzler**

**417-737-0885**

[desert8mule@gmail.com](mailto:desert8mule@gmail.com)

**President Elect: Joe Winget**

**417-224-1771**

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**Treasurer: Dennis Stead**

**417-380-3687**

[dmstead@aol.com](mailto:dmstead@aol.com)

### Chapter News:



The Nature Center staff said to call them back about September 1 about using their facility for meetings.



The June meeting was a fish fry held at Mountain Springs Trout Park. Twenty six people attended including two guests. A short meeting was held after the picnic. Everyone seemed to have fun although fewer than half of us fished. It was good to see old friends. Thanks to Kim Schultz for providing the fish and serving as fry cook. Thanks also to members who brought side dishes and desserts.

## **Fishing Reports:**



**6.10.21, Bennett Spring, John Dozier and Bob Randall, at the Gut Hole and Outflow Stream, each of us caught about 15 trout, some were pretty good size, successful flies mostly grey scuds, pellet fly, a white shrimp pattern. After lunch we tried without any strikes to fish below the rock dam with a white mop fly and a olive wooly bugger. A sultry, hot afternoon cut the fishing short. John stopped by the Niangua River at Moon Valley Road with an eye to catching a few small mouth bass. The fishing hole turned out to be a swimming hole full of kids that day.**

**Kim Schultz:**The white bass in Beaver Creek ran early April, with a good run in the James River. The weekly rains elevated the impoundment waters and several times fill the rivers to flood levels. Rod Pennington and I did find fishing James River to be very good, but after the high waters turned to the Little Sac River. One can easily monitor the river levels using the USGA river monitors, and I have found fishing to be good after a good rain with the Little Sac River rising in some cases 8-10 feet over night. It will take several days for the river to be fishable with access from Taylor Bridge. Rod and I made more than a half dozen trips finding many fish; white bass, crappie, walleye, carp all found together in different locations. On each of these trips, saw heron, king fishers, geese and several different bald eagles.

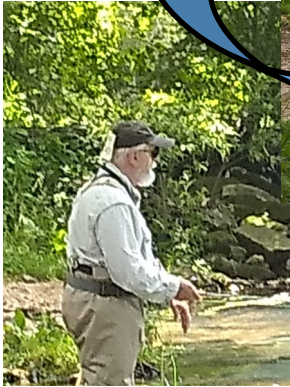
**6.17.2021, Roaring River, Dick Solomon and Bob Randall, On the water about 7:45-ish starting in Zone 3 in the next to the last pool in the park. We fished our way upstream. Unsuccessful flies were grey scud, gilled midge, white jig, black Wooley Bugger, Griffith's Gnat, and a dry fly. There were no successful flies except there were a couple of strikes. An angler who was leaving said the fish were hitting well from the starting whistle for about an hour and a half then they quit. He said they were even striking dry flies. Just before we left the parking lot there was a beautiful little mayfly on the hood of Dick's truck. It was about a size 18 or so, the abdomen was a rusty red-brown and the thorax was a dark greyish color. While we were fishing there was very little surface activity although Dick had a few hits on a dry.**

**Tip of the day:** "“Bury your fly in the mud before you cast it, That'll get the smells off of it.” “If you're getting some obvious follows on your streamer, but not getting the takes you want, this might be what gets a trout to make that final commitment. It won't hurt, that's for sure.” [From Trout Unlimited](#)

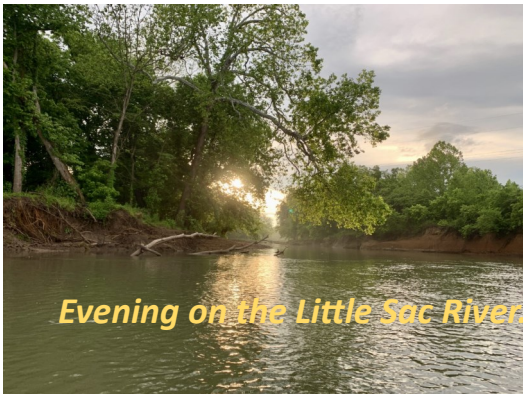


## ***Fishing Pics:***

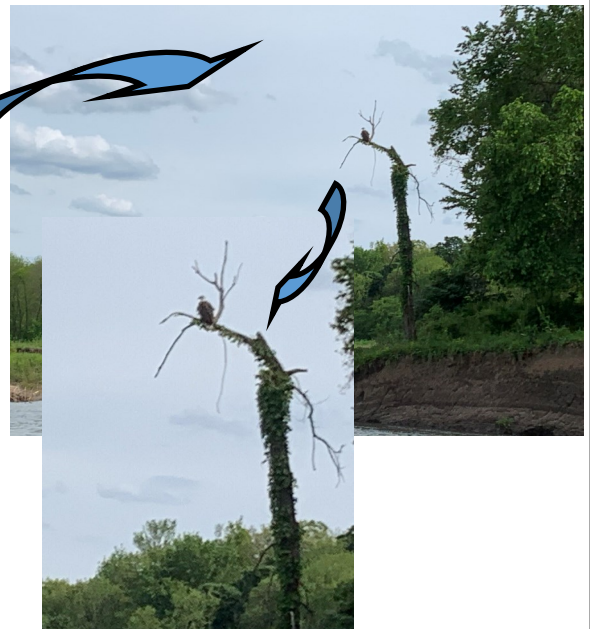
**John Dozier  
below the rock  
dam on Bennett  
Spring Creek**



***Here is a shot of and eagle watching me for an hour  
as I fished. Kim Schultz***



***Evening on the Little Sac River*** Kim Schultz



***This osprey has caught two fish on one pass with the talons of its left foot. Maybe it's like  
catching a fish on both your hopper and your dropper at the same time ... and with one  
hand tied behind your back.***

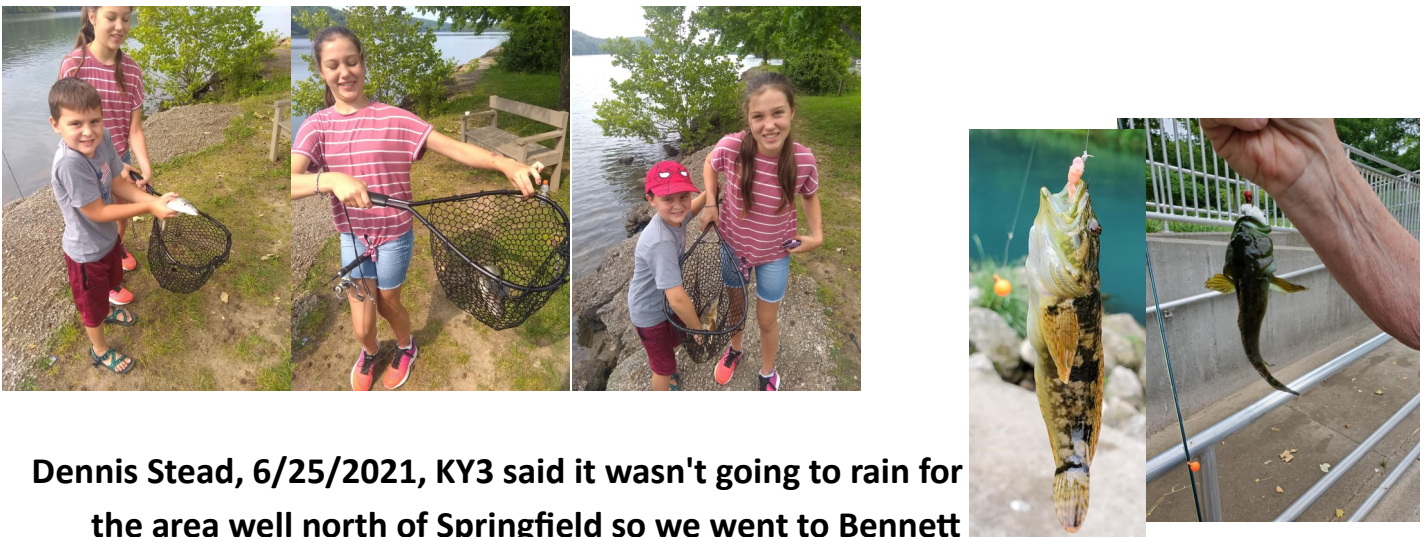




**Ron Ward and Mike Kidd fished Iceland. Guided trip. 6 days fishing. Ron had a brown trout  
Mike's was a char. Caught on nymphs.**



**Jax and Lexsie Randall, Rockaway Beach, 6.24.2021. Two trout and one carp.**



**Dennis Stead, 6/25/2021, KY3 said it wasn't going to rain for the area well north of Springfield so we went to Bennett Springs. At 10:45 rain drops are hitting the water. Even the sculpins like the mega worm.**



**Harry Morgan, Stockton Lake, 5/2020, it may be a year old but it's a good picture ... of the crappie.**

**The truth is that I somehow misplaced the picture I was going to add here. I thought this was as good as any.**

*Bob Randall*



# Fish Fry Pics



Kim Schultz caught all the white bass and risked life and limb around boiling oil to bring us this fish fry. Thanks Kim



Bryon Letterman



Rod Pennington, Bob Randall, Kim Schultz



Byron's first fish ever with a fly rod



Todd and Donna Christell



Jeff Snyder



Terry Tanner, Rus Doughty, Jerry Jester

Wayne Frizzell



Keith and Myrna Coffey



Bruce Hinnkston



John Dozier and John Bush



John Owensby and Beth Marsh



Allen Stanley

John Dozier and Todd Christell



## 2021 Branson Fly Fishing Expo Vendor Sign Up

July 29, July 30, and July 31, 2021

The fee will again be only \$50 per table and covers all three days. You have the option to donate an item or items to our raffles and auctions equivalent or greater than \$50, to wave your table fee. Your check or donation will reserve your table as soon as we receive it. If you cannot attend this year, you may be interested in sponsoring our event and having your business card on our Sponsor page.

To sign up, print this page, cut on dotted line, complete the information below, and mail it to: Howard Hawkins, Expo Treasurer, P.O Box 1962, Branson, MO 65615-1962 or contact Ron Leggins by email at [ronleggins@gmail.com](mailto:ronleggins@gmail.com) or by cell/text at 912-980-0766, or Howard Hawkins cell/text at 417-234-6806. If you have any questions or wish to make arrangements for donation shipping or pick up. Make checks to Branson Fly Fishing Expo.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Donations: \_\_\_\_\_

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## 2021 Branson Fly Fishing Expo Fly Tyer Sign Up

July 29, July 30 and July 31 2021

Join us and demonstrate your fly tying skills. To sign up, print this page, cut on dotted line, complete the information below, scan/email or and mail it to either:

Harry Morgan, 2377 E. Broadmoor, Springfield, MO 65804 [h.topwater@gmail.com](mailto:h.topwater@gmail.com)

(417) 379-0545 or

Dennis Stead, 4027 S. Kentwood, Springfield, MO 65804 [dmstead@aol.com](mailto:dmstead@aol.com) (417) 380-3687

Don't forget to circle the time slot that you would like to tie.

Fly Tier Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle a day and time:      Thursday Noon to 5pm                      Friday 9am to 1pm

Friday 1pm to 5pm

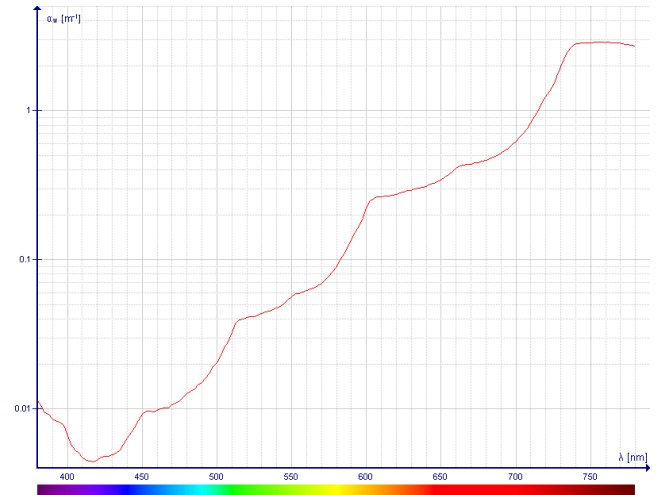
Saturday 9am to 1pm

Saturday 1pm to 4pm

### ***Fly Talk:***

Fly colors seem simple enough. If it's red it's red. Fish see red, so red is always good. Maybe not. Color is really a wavelength of light. You and I can see some colors because the light reflects off of a colored surface as all of the other light wavelengths are absorbed. A red fly reflects the red light. The cone receptors in your eyes send the stimulation through nerves to your brain where it is interpreted as color. White objects reflect all of the visible wavelengths and that blend of light in your eyes is interpreted as white. Black objects absorb all of those wavelengths and nothing is reflected. You don't really see black light. Your brain interprets the lack of received light as black.

Light wavelengths can be filtered. The graph to the right represents the absorption of light in distilled water. The X axis shows the visible colors. The Y axis represents the absorption of the light spectrum. The higher on the Y axis, the more absorption. As you can see, the red colors are absorbed (or filtered) in water while light at the other end of the visible spectrum (blue colors) is not absorbed as much.



Finally, here is my point: as a red fly sinks in the water, the reflected red light is diminished. Another way to think of this problem is that the further away your red fly is from a fish, the more absorption of the red light takes place. At some point, your red fly isn't red anymore. A fly tied in rainbow colors (all of the colors of the visible light spectrum) will change colors as it sinks. What to do? You could tie in some contrasting colors or fluorescent colors as that will create an edge between darker and brighter colors. Or maybe you can just keep tying the colors that you like. Maybe it's not your job to please the fish. ***Bob Randall***

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](mailto:bobbyleensandy@gmail.com)

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