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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

January 2022

Volume 16 No.01

**The January Get-Together will be held at the MDC
Nature Center on January 6 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm**

**2022 is the 50th anniversary of the Springfield Chapter of the Missouri
Trout Fishermen's Association**



Charity Auction/Raffles



Our annual charity event, assisting the Pipkin Middle School, will be held at the January meeting. Bring gift items to donate for the bucket raffle. Jerry Jester will also auction off some fly displays. Many of the Pipkin Middle School students are disadvantaged, needing coats, shoes, and other basic needs, as well as school supplies. Long time MTFA member Larry Wegmann, who passed away in 2021, coordinated the charity in the past. His daughter is the school's principal. She knows which children are in need and distributes the money appropriately. In addition, she will partner with some of the major stores in town to match our donation. Jerry Jester will coordinate this charity event. Don't forget to bring cash or checks to the meeting so that you can participate.

You may donate to the cause by sending a check payable to MTFA-Springfield to

Dennis Stead, 4027 South Kentwood, Springfield, MO 65804



Springfield Chapter Officers

President: Bruce Hinkston

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Vice-President: Kim Schultz

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Secretary: Allen Stanley

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Treasurer: Dennis Stead

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Executive Committee:

**Russ Doughty, Mike Kidd,
Gina Leitle, Nelson Morrison,
Dick Solomon, John Bush**



This is what happens when you yell, "Chow time". Everybody gets up and heads for the food line. Christmas Party photo by Mike Kidd

President's Message:

It's my honor and privilege to serve as your president in 2022. We will be doing things a bit differently this year due to time constraints at the Nature Center and the on-going pandemic. We have already begun having the executive committee meet during the social hour to save time. We are planning to continue to have at least 4 social events this year and we hope to get back to having some planned trips to Bennett Springs so the membership can fish together. Another opportunity to get together is the picnic table project Bob Randall has been working on. The monthly meetings are resuming at the Nature Center, but we have limited seating. I'm looking for more options for a meeting place that will hold more people and to have a back-up plan in case the Nature Center stops meetings again. We also have the MTFA State Derby coming up in May. This is a fund raiser and social event held by the MTFA State Council which represents all four MTFA chapters. After the derby, prizes are handed out on Sunday and the left-over prizes are raffled off to the MTFA members.

This year may have challenges like 2020, but we will do our best to find ways to safely get together. That's one of the wonderful things about fly fishing, it has social distancing built in. Thanks to Bob, the Executive Committee, and the membership, we now have the option of conducting business on-line. I hope it doesn't come to that, but if it does, we will keep communicating with the membership and still plan some fishing trips.

Again, it's such an honor to serve as your president this coming year and I humbly ask for your patience and support as we work to keep this organization running smoothly, continue to grow the membership and do all of the wonderful things our club is about.

Fish on, *Bruce Hinkston*

Chapter News: The 2021 Annual Meeting and Christmas party was a success. There were 37 in attendance. One of our members who couldn't make it asked me how the food was. I said that it was Golden Corral food. What's not to like? The 50/50 raffle was won by Keith Coffey. \$85 was raised for the chapter in the raffle. Thanks to Russ Doughty for organizing the party and to Regina Leitle for running the raffle.

At the meeting portion of the evening, the members voted to accept the officer/executive committee slate of nominees, as well as, to accept the amendments to the Chapter by-laws.

By-laws may be viewed at this link: [By-Laws of Springfield Chapter of \(mtfa-springfield.org\)](https://mtfa-springfield.org) or a copy can be obtained by contacting the newsletter editor.

We need to pick a date in March, April, or May to have our work day at Bennett Spring State Park. We will put together new table tops at Pavilion B. This will be a memorial project for Dick Deerfield. If you can help, please notify Bruce Hinkston.

Renew your membership sooner rather than later.

Bob Randall

This will be auctioned off at the January meeting as part of our charity for the Pipkin Middle School.

Bring your checkbook.



End of 2021 Treasurer's Report:

2021 End of Year Checkbook Balance Sheet

Current Check Book Balance	\$ 9,126.37
Current date	12/26/21

INCOME	2021 Actual	2021 Budget
Beginning Check Book Balance	\$ 8,719.69	\$ -
1 MSU Class @\$798	\$ -	\$ -
16 student fees @\$25	\$ -	\$ -
Memberships (93)	\$ 670.00	\$ -
Raffle (Christmas) Pipkin	\$ 85.00	\$ -
Memorial-Dick Deerfield	\$ 1,135.00	
Misc. (gifts)(others)	\$ 90.00	
Christmas Dinner	\$ 250.00	\$ -
Expo**	\$ 1,698.14	\$ 4,000.00
Total	\$ 12,647.83	\$ 4,000.00

EXPENDITURES		
CFM dues	\$ -	\$ 312.00
Charity (Pipkin)	\$ -	\$ -
Derby*	\$ 299.95	\$ -
Discretionary fund	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Equipment (Includes storage)	\$ 1,320.00	\$ 660.00
Expo (Paid 2019)	\$ -	\$ -
Hunting and Fishing Show	\$ -	\$ -
IFFF dues	\$ -	\$ 350.00
Liability	\$ 104.25	\$ 200.00
Library	\$ 79.95	\$ 200.00
Membership	\$ -	\$ 50.00
MSU Expenses	\$ -	\$ -
Office Supplies	\$ -	\$ 50.00
Newsletter Postage & supplies	\$ -	\$ 125.00
Programs	\$ 120.00	\$ 400.00
Rental Agreement Fish Fry	\$ -	\$ 80.00
Socials	\$ 1,597.31	\$ 1,500.00
Website	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Miscellaneous	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 3,521.46	\$ 4,327.00
Ending Check Book Balance	\$ 9,126.37	\$ (327.00)

Dennis Stead, Treasurer

Proposed 2022 Budget:

This budget duplicates most of the 2020 budget. The 2020 was the latest budget with a degree of normalcy. *Concerns about the negative ending balance: It is not likely that we will participate in the Hunting and Fishing Show, storage for 2022 has already been paid out of 2021 funds to obtain a discount. It is unlikely that the Library, Membership, MSU, Office Supplies, Newsletter funds will be spent in their entirety, if at all.*

INCOME	2022 Budget
1 MSU Class @\$798	\$ 800.00
16 student fees @\$25	\$ 400.00
Memberships (93)	\$ 1,400.00
Raffle (Christmas)	\$ 750.00
Memorial-Dick Deerfield	\$ -
Misc. (gifts)(others)	\$ 50.00
Refunds	\$ -
Expo**	\$ 1,157.00
Total	\$ 4,557.00

EXPENDITURES	
CFM dues	\$ 312.00
Charity (Pipkin)	\$ 750.00
Derby*	\$ 300.00
Dick Deerfield memorial	\$ 1,135.00
Discretionary fund	\$ 200.00
Equipment (Includes storage)	\$ 750.00
Expo (Paid 2019)	\$ -
Hunting and Fishing Show	\$ 150.00
IFFF dues	\$ -
Liability	\$ 200.00
Library	\$ 200.00
Membership	\$ 200.00
MSU Expenses	\$ 800.00
Office Supplies	\$ 50.00
Newsletter Postage & supplies	\$ 100.00
Programs	\$ 400.00
Rental Agreement Fish Fry	\$ 80.00
Socials	\$ 1,500.00
Website	\$ 200.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 100.00
Total	\$ 7,427.00
Difference	\$ (2,870.00)

Bruce Hinkston, President

Fishing Reports from Kim Schultz: December 4, 2021(Saturday): I drove into the park (Montauk SP) and arrived at 8 AM. I parked near the hatchery building and made my way to the stream (Current River). Within the first hour, I came across a doe and two fawns. A bald eagle flew overhead and perched just up stream from me. On the opposite bank, I watched a mink hunting for a meal. Several muskrats were in the vegetation (water cress) taking nourishment. I used #18 (PMD) dry flies fishing them on top and sometimes pulled them under the water after the fly drifted down stream. It was a pleasant day, sunny with the temperature in low 60s. I finished the day with 27 fish to hand. The largest trout was 17". A pileated woodpecker took to a tree a few yards from me, I was able to walk up to him as he ate dried berries from the tree, I was able to get a video of him. I stayed for the St. Louis MTFA Christmas party then drove 2.5 hours home. It's a hard one-day trip, I would recommend staying a night or two at the park. The lodge can provide dining/meals which I find to be very good. I plan to make another trip in January.

December 6, 2021(Monday): I went to Bennett SP today, no one else fishing above the dam to the Holland dam. I started fishing before 10 AM. The wind was blowing up stream, a brisk north wind. The air temperature was thirty-four with sunny conditions. The PMD hatch started at noon, and I had a good two hours of fishing with dry flies (PMD). No one fished the area while I was there. One eagle did a fly over. Fished to the whistle that blew at 4 PM. I finished with 19 trout to hand.

December 12, 2021(Monday): I drove seventy miles from my house to Roaring River SP today. The weather was fair with sunny skies. The wind was not a factor. I fished the two pools below the handicap ramp, and with the path of the sun, the area was under shade all day due to the bluff on the opposite bank. I could see plenty of fish, few midges in the air and very little surface activity for the morning and did not get into fish until 2 PM. The best fly was a PMD parachute #18. I caught one fish over sixteen, the rest were typical stockers with 26 trout for the day. My last cast last trout came 15 minutes before the whistle blew and I noticed club members Todd and Donna Christell fishing downstream from me. We chat for half an hour as we left the stream and walked back to our vehicles.

December 17, 2021(Friday): I left Springfield a little after 8 AM and in the water by 9:30. I fished above the dam in zone 1 and hoping for a PMD hatch before noon. The #18 dry fly (PMD) was on a 6X tippet, and I worked my way up stream looking for top water trout. It was a cool with several light showers throughout the day. There were only a few fishermen in the water on this Friday, which did not surprise me due to the weather. I saw only a few mayflies on the surface with the wind and current sending them down stream and towards river right bank. A few trout were taking them but had a hard time convincing them to take my fly. Many of the trout were at my feet looking for food as I waded along looking for better fishing. I stayed in zone 1 till 2:30 PM and then walked down stream past the bridge hoping for trout willing to take my fly. I stayed with the #18 PMD and after the cast across the stream let it stay on top then pull it under quarter down. Most of my drifts either missed a fish or brought a trout to hand. For the next hour, many trout were caught and released. I finished the day with 34 trout to hand. I did see a mink and a pair of eagles come in late to perch in the sycamore tree near the hatchery making passes and taking trout out of the raceways. I fished until the whistle blew (4 PM) and drove home in the rain. It was a good day to fish.

December 20, 2021 (Monday): The weather forecast for today was frost until 10 AM. So, I left Springfield a littler later and arrived Bennett Spring SP around 10 AM. It was a sunny day with the air temperature above freezing as temperatures increasing to high 40's. The wind from the southeast, blew downstream. I started in zone 1 fishing the "slough" water above the dam. The mayflies would emerge from this area and float out into open water. The hatch was light with the trout taking all the mayflies I saw on the water. I left zone 1 around 1 PM and walked down stream to another favorite spot. The trout were not as willing to take my fly as was the case on Friday with 22 trout caught on this day. The largest rainbow was 24" caught with a #20 PMD dry on 2 lbs. tippet just before the whistle blew, so the day ended on a good fish.

Continued next page

Fishing Reports continued:

From Kim Schultz's post on December 20, 2021 (Monday):



After the whistle blew, I walked back to the truck and saw an eagle fly upstream and perched himself on a limb of a sycamore tree across the stream. I walked down to the stream to get a better view and a video as he left the tree to fly back downstream. I went back to the truck to take off my waders and stowed away the rod and reel. As, I was about to leave the park, three deer crossed the road near the dining lodge and park store. I was able to park the truck get out and walk up to the six deer, taking a video of them while the feed on grass.

December 27, 2021 (Monday): I drove to Bennett Spring SP with the most people I've seen for this catch and release season. The day was sunny with a north wind, air temperature in high forties. The may-fly hatch was minimal, only a few seen all day. Later in the day the midges were swarming in a few areas. I fished above the dam (zone 1) using a stubby PMD pulled under and fished wet, later in the day fished it dry. There was enough wind to ripple the water surface to provide a little cover for the trout and me. There were three passes by a mature bald eagle. Several trout 16" with 29 trout to hand. On the drive home, saw a dozen deer feeding along roads and in pastures, filling up before the next front.

I am sure the weather will turn cold in January, and I plan to be there to see the fog lift off the water with rod guides freezing, and fingertips going numb. May sound foolish, but I enjoy days with very few fishermen on the water and snowflakes falling gently on the water. Tight lines.... Kim Schultz



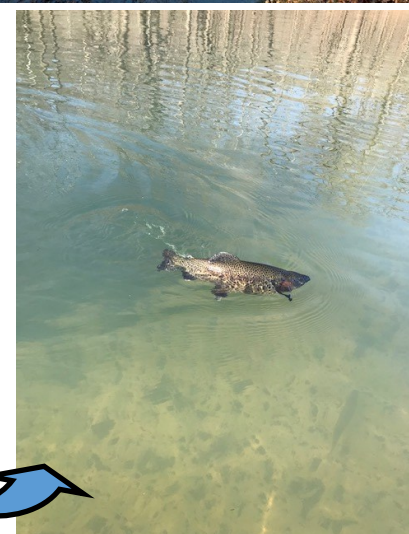
Dick Solomon: "Fished Bennet Springs yesterday [12/13/21], and overall fishing was at best mediocre. When I arrived @0730 the park was mostly empty. There were two guys suited up and clamping at the bit to get in the water at 0800. I had some new flies to try and couldn't decide so I went with a new pellet fly that Mike Kidd introduced me to. It was not a game changer to start with but caught on later. The two early birds were throwing Dry's and were not catching much. I moved down stream from them away from the Gut Hole and hooked up with my Shammy Worm jig. It was the best fly of the day but still not very productive. When the park started to get busy I shifted up to zone one away from the Surf Rods and Rooster Tails. I thought it was FLYS ONLY in all zones but what do I know. Anyway up to the Zone One Gut Hole< by the handicap pier, it wasn't much better, but it was not infiltrated by the Surf rods yet. As the morning got warmer and surprisingly the crowd didn't pickup I noticed one fella catching several in the shallow water, I was standing on the Pier waiting for my waders to dry out and I asked him what he was using and he said the SMALLEST FLY he had. Well I tied on a size 20 dry and zippo no luck, My tippet was too big and I didn't want to change so I was pretty dry and it was close to 12 and I headed to my truck, on the way I stopped by to chat with the guy and look at his fly, duh, he was using a MIDGE AND A SPARKLEY dropper above it. In my 40 odd yrs fishing that hole I have never fished a Midge in that shallow area. Live and Learn. I might add that from the start at the HORN there was a Hatch going on and from my position on the pier and had a great view, the fish were real close to the top of the water, they just didn't like my flies. As I was leaving I stopped and watch a fellow fishing a New Zealand Indicator. He made 4 or 5 casts way out in the stream beyond the Moss Beds fishing about 4 ft deep and every cast was hooking up, he was out pretty deep in the water so I didn't ask or see his fly. That's my story and I'm sticking to it. "

Fishing Pics

Bruce Hinkston: Fished the NorFork River in Arkansas with Tyler Evans on Saturday, Dec. 18. Happened to be my birthday. Caught several trout on olive green wooly buggers and scuds. Kept a few like the one in the photo to smoke for my staff at work. Turned out pretty good.



From Kim Schultz's winter fishing report: Overall, the catch-and-release at the state parks has been good with a few large trout caught. I used five different flies with the stubby Pale Morning Dun (PMD) fished dry or wet being the most productive.



Montauk C&R. Wispy fly. From Mike Kidd



Fly Talk:

The Tied Fly Recipe:

Size 12 dry fly hook, standard length

Thread: Black

Body: Black dubbing

Rib: Black wire

Tail/back: Black flash straws

Wings : Swiss Straw

Head: Tan dubbing

Eyes: (Optoinal) Bead chain



As shown here on the left, they can be tied in various sizes and colors. The horizontal scale line at the lower left corner of this diagram is 1 cm or roughly $3/8"$.

How to make your flies ride “hook up” with smaller dumbbell eyes:

Heavy flies can be hard to cast or sink too fast. Rather than adding bigger dumbbell eyes for weight, you can go with smaller, better proportioned eyes by using this technique of adding a “lift kit” to change the center of gravity of your fly.

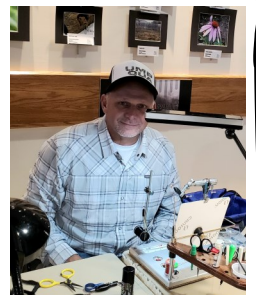
Check out this Orvis solution: [How to Use a “Lift Kit” to Make Flies Ride Hook-Point-Up - Orvis News](#)

For those of you who are less tech savy or too cantankerous to bother looking it up on-line, the idea is to double some monofilament and place it on top of the shank to add a little distance between the hook and the eyes. This will change the center of gravity of the fly.



***Fly Tying at the Springfield Conservation Nature Center
Thursday, December 30, 2021***

***Thanks to Bruce Hinkston, Dennis Stead, Kim Schultz,
John Dozier, and Wayne Essary.***



Hoping that 2022 will be a better year.



Some of our members are still having a bad year:

Marcus and Mary Schumaker, Mary is in hospice.

Charles Gregory has lung cancer and will have part of his lung removed this month.

Larry Olson, fell after knee replacement, opening up the surgical closure.

Dan Ditzler had a TIA, a mini-stroke.

Harry Morgan will have a second back surgery soon.

Water levels:

Roaring River water level: [National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service](#)

Taneycomo water level: [National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service](#)

Bennett Spring water level: [National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service](#)

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

More about us: MTFA Website www.MTFA-Springfield.org

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[Membership - Missouri Trout Fisherman's Association - Springfield Chapter \(mtfa-springfield.org\)](http://www.mtfa-springfield.org)