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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

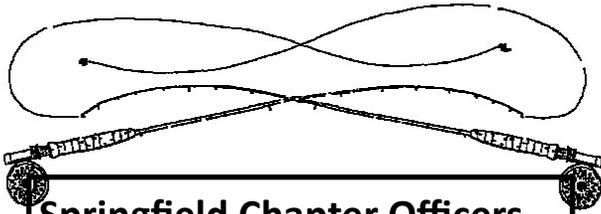
June 2022

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**The June Get-Together is at the MDC Nature Center  
from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Presentation will be about  
fishing Crane Creek**

Our guest speaker for the June meeting will be Shane Bush, Fisheries Management Biologist with the Missouri Department of Conservation. He oversees fishery management at Table Rock Lake, Taneycomo and Crane Creek. He has been with the MDC for nineteen years. Shane will discuss Crane Creek and share with us his latest survey information of this small blue ribbon Trout Stream running through Crane with access on Wire Road Conservation Area. The Wire Road Conservation Area is a 1,002-acre tract located in northwestern Stone County. The area was purchased in 1983 and encompasses 3.7 miles of Crane Creek. There are a few in the club who have experienced the fishery with the McCloud strain of wild trout and happy to share their stories. It will be an informative session hope you will be able to attend.

*Kim Schultz*



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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: [bobbyleen-sandy@gmail.com](mailto:bobbyleen-sandy@gmail.com)

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



### Chapter News:

#### **Member deaths:**

Mary Schumacher passed away in January this year. Condolences to her husband Markus.

Norma Knight, wife of Herb Knight, the driving force to create MTFa-Springfield back in 1972. Services for Norma will be Tuesday at Central Christian Church.

During the May 6th get-together, we held a fly tying class and a casting class. Bob Randall presented a beginning fly tying class to interested members: Scott and Cindy Edwards, Jon and Mary Smith, Mike and Mason Suttmoeller, Jeff Emry, Rich and John Owensby, and Jim Johnson. We learned the jam knot, the whip finish, bobbin techniques, bead use, and made a san juan worm fly. On May 26, we met for a second class at the Library Center.

Thanks to mentors, Todd Christell, Harry Morgan, Dennis Stead, Bill Huyett, John Dozier, and Rod Pennington.

Kim Schultz helped Elaine Emry improve her casting skills.

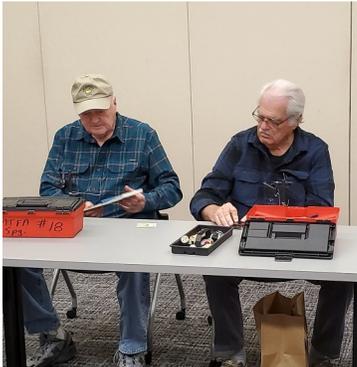
We continued with fly tying instruction at the Library Center on May 26. We refreshed the techniques we learned previously and proceeded to tie wooly buggers.

The next class will be at the Library Center, Community Room A on Thursday, June 09, 6:30PM - 9:00PM. Another class will be on Thursday, June 23 in the Harrison Room from 6:30PM - 9:00PM.

*Bob Randall*



***Fly Tying Class: Scott and Cindy Edwards, Harry Mogan, Dennis Stead, Jean and Jon Smith, Bill Huyett, Dick and John Owensby***



***Mike and Mason Suttmoeller, Rod Pennington, Mark Schumacher, Bob Randall.***

***The 56er fly with a mallard tail, grey upper body with yellow belly represents an immature crawfish in the White River.***



***Larry Wegmann introduced this fly to the club.***



## **2022 MTFA State Derby at Bennett Spring State Park**

**The State Derby was held on May 14 & 15. Next year will be Springfield's turn to organize the derby and provide the prizes and food. Don't worry we will be reimbursed by the State Council. It will be held on May 20 and 21, 2023.**

**The Derby consists partly of a contest for people who catch tagged fish. Those who catch one of these ichthy-prizes, win a more tangible prize on the last day. Approximately 160 anglers participated in the attempt to catch tagged trout.**

**The Derby weekend also includes a memorial service for deceased club members is held on Saturday morning, a meal is served on Saturday either at noon or evening when an annual meeting takes place. Approximately 58 members were there for that activity. The prize distribution starts at noon on Sunday and it wraps up about 2pm.**

**Organizing and "working" the Derby requires 5 or 6 people minimum and requires effort on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. We have reserved three rooms for Friday and Saturday nights to make it easier on the workers. We will submit a proposal for the chapter to cover that expense at the next meeting.**



## ***Fishing Reports:***

***Bob Randall, Larry Olson, Roaring River, May 18, Fishing was slow for almost everyone except one guy who was using soft plastics in Zone 1. Larry caught 3 on sowbug, Bob caught one on a tigertail.***

***Larry Olson, Bennett Spring, May 20, Lori and I went to Bennett . She did some walking and reading. I fished my spot in the gut hole for a couple hours. I caught 3 with a gut sack sowbug. Had a fifteen second ride from another. Water was high and murky. Saw a guy catch some big ones on a white mop fly. Wasn't crowded at all. Had a good lunch at the dining hall.***

***Jim Rogers, Bennett Spring Concessionaire, May 23: The water at Bennett still has some color and above normal flow.***

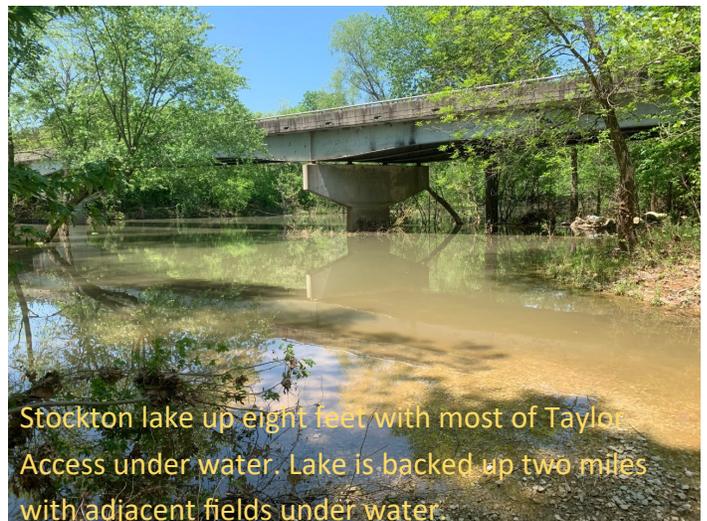
**Fishing has been good. High current conditions force the fish close to shore or very deep. Picture me on a treadmill.**

**No fun fishing on the bottom but not bad close to shore. The fish burn more calories fighting the current and have to eat more.**

**Remember, the fish have to see food before they decide to eat it.**

**Russ Doughty, Took my new friend, Ruben, to Mountain Springs for his first time fly fishing and trout fishing. We caught about 30 lbs of trout. He had a blast! Russ**

**Kim Schultz, Little Sac River, May 12, 2022 (Little Sac): I have only fished one day this month. I made a returned trip back to Little Sac after the arrival of the spring rains with Stockton Lake coming up eight feet. With all the rain, it was hard finding acceptable conditions with lake levels, river flow and decent water clarity. I had to paddle several miles upstream from Taylor bridge. I had fished this area a few times over the years, only with the lake is very high. My first cast hooked a sixteen-inch white bass with a few smaller fish taken out of the first hole. There were a few power boats running up even farther, probably fishing below Hwy 215 bridge. I moved up stream fishing just below the railroad trestle finding more small white bass. I had several encounters with northern band water snakes having to tap them on the head with my fly rod when they came too close. There were carp moving up into the river to spawn. I finished the day with releasing two limits of small white bass, taking a few home for dinner, two drum and an eighteen-inch channel catfish. There were a few down trees in the stream with many pushed up on the banks with the high water from the recent floods.**



**Stockton lake up eight feet with most of Taylor Access under water. Lake is backed up two miles with adjacent fields under water.**

## Fishing Reports:

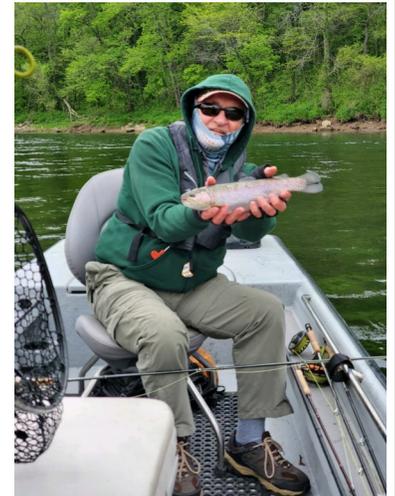


**White River below Bull Shoals Dam, Bob Randall and Larry Olson, May 3 & 4:** Before fishing the White, we fished the North Fork River below the Norfolk Dam for about 45 minutes before the horn sounded and the water rose. Using nymphs, I landed a nice fish that I thought was a weird looking rainbow, forgetting that Arkansas has stocked other species. I now believe it was a cutthroat. I don't recall any red on the fish but I didn't think to look around the mouth or the gill cover. Looking at pictures of a cutthroat, everything else seems to identify it as a cut. I had two others there, one was a good 8 second rodeo ride and the other was on as the gate opened and I was thrown off (rodeo lingo). Then we went to the White below Cutter, AR. It had rained buckets the night before, and the water was high, fast, milky, and unproductive. We went upstream to locate the spot where we were to meet our guide the next day and discovered that caddis flies were coming off the water and with the wind blowing them around, it looked like a snow storm. The next day, we had a guide, Taylor Wooten (not related to Davy and spelled different) from the White River Fly Anglers Guide Service. The Corps had run water the previous day so much of the cloudiness was gone. However, there was still some trash in the water which confused us as we were fishing elk hair caddis flies on the surface. Several times, we found that the fly we were watching wiggled its wings and flew away. That was when we realized our flies had already slipped below the surface. The biggest problem we had all day was keeping our dries on the surface. We nymphed for a few drifts. I caught 9 fish, all bows, about half on dries and half on nymphs under an indica-



tor. It was fun but no big browns.

Larry did better, having four browns on, two of which he landed. One was lost because of knot failure (clinch knot) at the hook eye and the other broke off. Both of those must have



been real horses. He also landed at least 5 bows.

Lightning forced us off the water but it was lunchtime anyway. We went back out after the storm passed and caught a few more.



Looking back at it, I think we would have caught more fish if we had nymphed more. Hey, who doesn't like dry fly fishing?

*Bob Randall*





### ***Casting Talk:***

#### ***MTFA-Branson FIRST ANNUAL FLY ROD GAMES***

The Branson Chapter of MTFA invites members of the Springfield to join us in our first annual first annual fly rod games. To be held in conjunction with their June 1, 2022 monthly meeting and pot luck. To be held at Empire Park Pavilion, adjacent to Power Site Dam. Potluck dinner at 6:00PM, casting games begin at 7:00PM.

So, bring your favorite trout rod and have some fun. We will have four different games: Wet fly, Dry Fly, Shoot the Hoop and distance.

**Wet Fly:** five targets, between twenty and forty feet. The caster begins with the fly in hand and no line extended from the reel. The caster may take as many false casts till he/she feels that is ready to cast to the first target, once he has cast to the first target he only gets one false cast between each of the next four targets. A perfect score is when you hit the target = 0, for each foot from the target you get a demerit of one. Caster with the lowest score wins.

**Dry Fly:** The caster begins as above, however, he/she gets as many false casts as they want between targets but will be limited to one minute from the time the first target is cast to complete all five targets! Scoring is the same as previous game.

**Shoot the hoop:** The caster will be required to shoot a loop of fly line through a successive series of ever smaller hoops. Timed.

**Distance:** Using a rod with a standard 5 or 6 wt., Floating line, the caster will get three casts for score.

Tournament flies will be provided.

Scoring is just for fun; everyone is welcome to participate.

To get to the park, take Hwy 160 from Hwy 65 , East through the town of Forsyth, MO. Turn right (south) on Ave., Y, its the only 4 way stop on 160 in Forsyth. Continue on Y until you come to the boat launch. The pavilion is adjacent to the boat launch.