



www.MTFA-Springfield.org

MTFA_Springfield@yahoo.com

MO Fishing

March 2016

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We will meet at the Nature Center on March 3rd. There will be fly tying at 6:00pm and the meeting will begin at 7:00pm.

Ben Havens will be our guest speaker for Thursday's meeting. Ben is the new hatchery manager at Bennett Spring State Park, stepping in for Mike Mitchell last year.

Ben has been assigned to all the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) trout hatcheries over his fourteen years with the department. He will discuss hatchery operations at Bennett Spring SP, provide some insight to the clean up and restoration of the park after the winter floods swamped the park.

Ben will provide his personal insight to improvements to the hatchery and the production of trout. He will be open to questions from the members. We're very happy Ben can join us, taking time from his busy schedule... Hope you will attend and learn more about Missouri Trout.



Ben Havens – Hatchery Manager, Bennett Spring State Park
Photo from the MDC

**Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association - Springfield Chapter
Calendar for March 2016**

March 1	Opening day for Trout Season at MO State Parks
March 3	Monthly meeting 6-9 PM
March 12	Club fishing and MTFA Pre-derby meeting Bennett Spring SP 12 PM
March 17	MSU Fly Fishing Class 6-9:50 PM
March 18-20	Conservation Federation of Missouri Annual Convention, Jefferson City, MO
March 26	Picnic and fishing at Mountain Springs Trout Park
March 31	MSU Fly Fishing Class 6-9:50 PM
April 2	Tri-Lakes Expo, Brighton, MO 9 AM - 4 PM
April 7	MSU Fly Fishing Class 6-9:50 PM

Club Notes from Bob Randall:

The club Executive Committee has selected three delegates to represent MTFA-SPRINGFIELD at the State Council business meetings for 2016. They are Harry Morgan, Rod Pennington, and Howard Hawkins.

We donated 121 flies to the MDC for an award to be given at the National Association of Interpretation. Naturalist Alan Reed was pleased and offers his thanks to all who participated.

Legal update: Missouri Senate Joint Resolution (MO-SJR 19) which modifies the membership composition and terms of service of the commissioners on the Conservation Commission seems to have been originally designed to put politics into the MDC by requiring the commissioners to live in each of the eight conservation regions. This would have given the commissioners "constituents" to represent instead of focusing on conservation. The committee in charge of the bill changed it so that there will be six (instead of four) commissioners and they can live anywhere in the state. That's good news! The bill is through the Senate and is now to be considered by the House. If this bill passes, it will require a constitutional amendment next fall.

My opinion: Being distrustful of politicians I still feel there must be a poison pill in there somewhere or maybe it's just the legislature's way of shaking MDC's tree. But rather than look at my two conspiracy theories, we should consider any public vote as a referendum on the MDC. It could turn out great or it could turn out badly. The public simply doesn't give adequate effort in examining problems or solutions. In this case, there is no problem with the MDC that needs this solution. Slick, negative TV ads could help the amendment pass. And if they give the amendment a fancy name, say the "Responsible Conservation Amendment" many people would vote for it just because of that. Passage of this amendment could lay out a pathway for political control of our MDC. I say it's a slippery slope. I've already written my legislators.

Bob Randall

The Tri-Lakes Fly Fishing Expo will be held Saturday, April 2, 2016, in Brighton, MO. It will be held at 5403 Hwy F (Old Hwy 13 at the Brighton Assembly of God Church building). The Tri-Lakes Fly Fishing Club out of Bolivar sponsors this event annually. It is billed as Missouri's largest fly fishing show with fly tying demos, raffles, auction items, vendors, speakers and casting instructions. It is free to the public.

Our club demonstrated tying flies at the Bass Pro Shop from 10am to 2pm Saturday, 2/27. It was a fun event but it was such a beautiful day, some of us wondered if we should have been fishing instead. Even so, it was good. Present and tying were Patti Hayes, John Dozier, Ralph Eichholtz, Bill Huyett, Dennis Stead, Herb Knight, Bob Randall, Dan Ditzler, Larry Wegmann, Jerry Jester, and Jerry's 8 year old grand daughter, Kayleigh Fong. In case you don't know, Kayleigh ties a pretty good fly.

Membership Update – Kim Schultz

A list of 2016 membership from the Springfield Chapter has been compiled. There are 36 individual members with 50 families memberships; our total membership including spouse and dependents tally to a sum of 151. Our chapter will send a check for \$272 to the MTFA pre-derby meeting to pay our annual dues to the Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association with a portion of that money going to the Conservation Federation of Missouri (CFM). The club has several new members since the first of the year; Mike Little, Stephan Young, Cody Lowery and Fred Brown. There are thirteen members who have not paid for 2016. If you wish to pay and not sure if you did, please contact me at MTFA_Springfield@yahoo.com; I will have all returned membership applications and new membership applications if you need to fill one out.

Kim Schultz, >-:}})'> kds<'){{:-<

MTFA Pre-Derby Meeting

Bill Beckman (Kansas City Chapter) is this year's president of the MTFA State Council. He has called a pre-derby meeting Saturday, March 12, 2016 at Bennett Spring State Park, with the meeting starting at noon. He will discuss the upcoming MTFA Derby in May. Our chapter will submit a rooster of 2016 membership with dues to the state and the CFM. Since the Kansas City chapter is the host for this year's derby, each chapter will provide funds for derby prizes. Each chapter will submit payment for insurance at the pre-derby meeting. All MTFA members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Kim Schultz, >-:}})'> kds<'){{:-<

MSU Class Update, Ralph Eichholz

Beginning Fly Fishing KIN 135-431

Spring 2016

Our class will meet in Kemper Hall, Room 102 this spring from 6-9:50 pm. The first four meetings, starting March 17, will be in this very large classroom in Kemper Hall, which is just west of the stadium. The last Thursday meeting will be at Mountain Spring Trout Park.

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The first meeting will include casting instruction by Kim Schultz then the class practicing. Tying kits will be handed out and instruction given in the tools and their usage. Video of jam knot, thread base, half hitch and whip finish will be shown. Dan Ditzler will then lead the class in tying a wooly bugger. Class will end with a viewing of video on aquatic insects.

This year the tying kits will include all of the hooks, beads, lead wire, and colored wire to tie two of each pattern we do. Hopefully, we'll also have a bag of materials needed each week for the flies to be tied that evening.

We have more volunteers to demo flies then we have had in several years. Below are the dates, the flies and the person doing the demo:

March 17	Wooly Bugger	Dan Ditzler
March 31	Scud	Bill Huyett
	Griffith's Gnat	Harry Morgan
	Soft Hackle	Ralph Eichholz
April 7	Bead Head Leech	Russ Doughty
	Elk Hair Caddis	Herb Knight
	Crackleback	Larry Wegmann
April 21	Clouser	John Dozier
	Chili Pepper	Larry Wegmann

Something New to Watch Out For

MDC: Invasive black carp weren't supposed to be capable of reproducing, but they are

Black Carp



"Courtesy Missouri Department of Conservation"
News from the [Southeast](#) region
Published on: Feb. 25, 2016
Posted by [Candice Davis](#)

CAPE GIRARDEAU, Mo. – Researchers with the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) report the first documented evidence of invasive black carp reproduction in the wild in North America. This means big problems for native river species, according to MDC Resource Scientist Quinton Phelps.

“The finding of reproductive-capable black carp means their population will expand possibly unchecked,” Phelps said.

The finding resulted after two small unidentified carp were collected in a ditch directly connected to the Mississippi River near Cape Girardeau in November. After genetic analysis, they were determined to be juvenile black carp and were also tested to determine their reproductive capability. Both

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juvenile black carp were found to be capable of reproduction. Scientists are able to determine future reproductive capability of juvenile fish through chromosome analysis.

Black carp are just one species of invasive Asian carp that are found in many rivers in Missouri. They originally arrived in the United States mistakenly in shipments of grass carp and were introduced into farm ponds first for control of parasites, then as a food fish. When they were introduced, regulations specified they be altered so they could not reproduce. Due to flooding, and cases of accidental release in bait buckets, they’ve spread in recent decades and thrive in many rivers.

This newly confirmed information about their reproductive capability suggests there are likely more adults present in the river than biologists originally anticipated, Phelps said, which is a big problem. Invasive species in Missouri can be detrimental to the survival of native species. For example, Asian carp compete with native fish species for food sources. They’re voracious eaters of native mussels, which are a vital species to the health of river habitat.

“Given that many of our mussel populations in the state are currently in jeopardy, additional consumption by black carp could drastically reduce their numbers,” Phelps said.

Nearly two-thirds of the 65 species of mussels found in Missouri are of conservation concern. These freshwater mussels are filter feeders, meaning they clean impurities from the water. They provide food for native muskrats, raccoons, river otters, some birds, and many native fish species. Through their gills, mussels filter out small particles from the water and transform them into food for fish and other animals.

Black carp consumption of native mussels and competition with native species could lead to an overall poor water quality system, directly affecting humans as well as native fish.

Although this news paints a discouraging picture, Phelps said it doesn’t mean the fight is over against black carp. Instead, he said everyone can get involved in reducing their spread by avoiding accidentally introducing the species into new bodies of water when they dump bait, ensuring stocked fish come from licensed vendors, and sharing information about these practices with others.

Black carp sightings should be reported to the MDC, either by contacting a fisheries biologist at the Southeast Regional Office at (573)290-5730, or by contacting Phelps and his colleagues at the Big Rivers and Wetlands Field Station in Jackson at (573)243-2659. For general information about black carp, go online to <http://mdc.mo.gov/node/10336>.

2016 MTFA -Springfield Chapter Officers

President	Bob Randall	224-1104 bobbyleensandy@hotmail.com
President Elect	Harry Morgan	890-1727 h.topwater@att.net
Secretary	Lori Burke	569-6079 vawilderness@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Ralph Eicholz	343-2591 Mathman3@aol.com
Past President	John Dozier	209-8041 Flytyer88@gmail.com
3 Year Executive Committee Member	Russ Doughty and Jerry Jester	
2 Year Executive Committee Member	Bill Burke and Dick Deerfield	
1 Year Executive Committee Member	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 – Ralph Eichholz		
Social Chair - Leslie Chastain and John Bush		
Newsletter Editor – Eve Krit-Anderson,		
Librarian - Dennis Stead / Harry Morgan		
Equipment/Supplies - John Prugger/Kim Schultz		
Web Page - Brent Simmons		
Membership Chair – Kim Schultz		
Liaison to Natl./State org – Bob Randall		
Public Relations – Bob Randall		

If you would like to submit an article for the MTFA newsletter, Please put MTFA in the email subject line and send to Eve.

Send Articles to: EKAnderson@hotmail.com

The web sites: **MTFA-Springfield.org**

E-mail: MTFA_Springfield@yahoo.com