

# Missouri Trout Fishermen' Association

Next Meeting: April 4, 2018

Where: **155 Wilshire Dr., Hollister,  
MO (see directions on last page).**

When: 6:00-7:00 PM Fly-tying

7:00-9:00 PM Meeting

President's Message



Hi every one, well April is here and there is a lot going on this month. First of all I went to the pre-derby meeting of the state council of MTFA to present our petition for full chapter recognition. I paid for our dues, liability insurance and for our share of the donation for the derby in May. I also picked

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SOUTH WEST POWER ADMIN.

Generation Schedule

1-866-494-1993

[www.swpa.gov](http://www.swpa.gov)



up twenty MTFA patches for those who want them @ \$ 5.00 ea. There is also going to be an outing to Mountain Springs Trout Park on April 7 @5:30 PM that is open to both the Branson Chapter and Springfield Chapter. The event is free of charge to club members, so come out for a couple of hours and meet some of the members from Springfield and catch some whoppers! Catch and release only! Barbless hooks please! Speaking of fishing, it looks like the wading at Taneycomo is going to be dicey for a while, till the rain subsides some time in twenty-twenty! Well it seems that way! White bass should start becoming active any time, there were a few people fishing Swan Creek at river Run Park, but I didn't see any fish on the stringers!

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President	Matthew Peet	417546-3151 Ozarkboy06@ yahoo.com
Vice President	Vacant	
Secretary	Mike Kidd	314-606-7039 mike.kidd01@ gmail.com
Treasurer	Howard Hawkins	417-544-0056 pdgpcc@yahoo .com
Past President	Howard Hawkins	
Executive Committee 1 Year	Buddy Hendrickson, Richard Leggins	
Executive Committee 2 Year	Ron Leggins, Mike Kidd	
Executive Committee 3 Year	Pat Malone, Ron Ward	

## Presidents message continued

Red buds are blooming and the Dogwoods won't be far behind so crappie season should be close at hand. Morels should be breaking ground soon, so there is a lot going on. Get out and enjoy! If you didn't have a chance to go to the "Sow Bug Roundup", in Mountain Home, AR, you missed a great event. As always, there are some really outstanding tier's there, many nationally recognized, and many other local and regional tiers who were all willing to share their expertise and methods with all who sat and watched! If you haven't gone in the past, you should plan to attend next year's event.

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At our next meeting we will introduce a new raffle program! Along with our current free raffle which depends on donations from club members, we will have an additional raffle for a number of other prizes, that were purchased for the raffle. Raffle tickets will cost \$ .25, apiece or five for a dollar, so bring your spare change and help support your local fly club!

## State Affiliation

As you know, one of the goals of the Branson MTFA's formation was to apply for and be recognized as full charter of the state wide MTFA organization. I received the following message from Bob Randall, our current membership chair on our clubs current status.

### A Full Charter for the Branson Chapter by Bob Randall

We started talking about creating a Branson Chapter of MTFA at least two years ago. Howard Hawkins asked me how to start a chapter in Branson and I gave him a clear answer (LOL). I said, "I don't know." adding, "but I'll find out." After talking, questioning, planning, rewriting the State Council By-laws, calling, emailing, recruiting, and holding meetings, we held our first chapter meeting in September of 2016. We kept at it until we could present a petition to the State Council at the 2017 Derby. At that time, Branson was given a Provisional Charter to become an MTFA chapter. Fulfilling all of the obligations required since then, including gathering the required signatures on a petition for full chapter status, we pitched our case to the State Council Board of Directors at the Pre-Derby meeting last month. Branson was represented by chapter president, Matthew Peet. I was technically representing the Springfield chapter but gave a strong recommendation in support of Branson. We gave them a heads up notice that we would like for them to consider approving the petition at the Derby meeting in May. That weekend will mark the one-year anniversary of the Provisional Charter, which is required by the By-laws. The State Council did not hesitate. They said, "Why wait?" and right then and there they approved the petition and granted the Full Charter to MTFA-Branson to be effective on May 19 this year. Hooray! All the "i's" have been dotted and all the (t's) have been crossed. Branson will be the fourth full fledged MTFA chapter. There was talk of having a ceremony at the Derby to mark the occasion. Someone even mentioned champagne.

## April's Program

Mike Kidd will be presenting a program on fishing for trout in North Carolina this month. Mike just recently visited there and judging from some of his pictures, fished some really nice looking waters. Come and let Mike share his adventure with you.

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### Upcoming Events

Branson Meeting 4/4/2018 6:00-9:00  
Taneycomo Terrace Club House (see  
direction on last page)

Springfield Meeting 4/5/2018 Springfield  
Nature Center

Mountain Springs outing 4/7/2018, 5:00 PM  
till dark ( see back page)

Branson EXPO planning meeting 4/18/2018

Branson Meeting 5/2/018

Springfield Meeting 5/3/2018

MTFA State Derby 5/19/2018, Bennett  
Springs-more information on derby next  
month.



RS2

### Fly of the Month: Mop Fly



Pretty simple fly tied with individual  
“fingers” from micro fiber “mop” usually  
found in car wash aisle of hard ware stores.  
I bought my one color of mop at the Wal  
Mart Supercenter in the car care aisle.  
Menard’s has several colors available, as do  
O’Reilly’s and Dollar General.

This is pattern is simple to tie and there are  
most limitless variations. You can tie it on a  
bare hook, with a bead or on a lead head  
jig, depending on your water conditions  
where you fish! A number #10 or # 12 wet  
fly hook or scud hook will suffice, 3/0 or 6/0  
thread of your color choice will work, I  
wouldn’t go smaller than 6/0 on the thread

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Fly of the month, continued...

as you want to be able to put a good bit of pressure on the thread when tying down the mop. Start by laying down a base of thread on the front third of the hook ending with the thread about 1-2 eye lengths behind the eye of the hook or the bead; select one mop finger and cut off the mop close to point of attachment; then pluck some of the material from the base to expose the core strands; secure the mop finger to the top of the hook and wind back through the material to about the hook point. Now you can dub a "thorax" in what ever color you wish. I recommend a contrasting color of Ice Dub. Dub up to the bead or eye and whip finish! Ta Da! These are fun to tie and very simple and they catch fish. I used one over at Bennett Springs and caught a fish on my very first cast. That fly accounted for four or five fish on what was a very slow day. I haven't used them on Taneycomo yet, but according to Mike Kidd they work very well. I've made mop flies into stone fly nymphs, cased caddis larvae, crane fly larvae and other creatures! One aspect of these flies is that they have a lot of movement in the water that adds to their effectiveness. There is enough material on one of these mops for hundreds of flies, that is why I will have pieces of mop available for anyone who wants some at this meeting!

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Thanks again to John Bush for his program he put on at last month's meeting

"Look forward to your hours spent on the water as moments well spent in a world to preoccupied with dangerous nonsense. Stand knee-deep along the swirling, boulder-strewn course of the lovely Beaverkill and close your eyes for a moment. Relax, and think back to the days of Gordon, of streamside comradeship of Hewitt and LaBranche, and the contentment it brought to their lives. Remember them, nod to the past and take up where they left this heritage...to you" Bob Zwirz, *The Compact Book of Fresh Water Fishing*, 1964

This past month, our fly fishing fraternity lost a giant, Bernard " Lefty" Kreh passed away March 14, 2018. I've reprinted his obituary that appeared in the *New York Times*. (See next page).



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## *Lefty Kreh, a Fly Fisherman With Few Peers, Is Dead at 93*

By Mitch Keller, *New York Times*, March 14, 2018

Lefty Kreh, one of the pre-eminent sport fishermen of his time, died on Wednesday at his home in Cockeysville, Md., north of Baltimore. He was 93.

His granddaughter [Sammantha Aus](#) said the cause was congestive heart failure.

For a half century, Mr. Kreh, a globe-trotting fisherman, journalist and author, was a colorful and highly influential figure in both freshwater and saltwater fly-fishing. In countless articles and more than 30 books, in videos, on television and at innumerable public appearances, he converted his vast experience into lucid observations and practical advice for anglers at all levels.

Mr. Kreh was always willing to re-examine traditional ideas in a sport laden with them. As he said about fly-fishing for trout in his book "Advanced Fly Fishing Techniques" (1994): "I feel that many people who are not really versed in the sport have either written or spoken about it, and they have attempted to create a concept that this is a very difficult sport to master. That simply isn't true."

While fly angling in fresh water for fish like trout and salmon is an old sport, saltwater fly-fishing is comparatively

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new, and Mr. Kreh was one of its earliest champions. His book "Fly Fishing in Salt Water," which he said he wrote "not to make money, but so I didn't have to answer so many darn questions," was published in 1974 and remains an essential text. A saltwater fly of Mr. Kreh's, Lefty's Deceiver, is used all over the world, and in 1991 the Postal Service put it on a stamp.



Mr. Kreh was much in demand as an instructor of fly casting, the easily misperformed skill of unfurling a heavy fishing line to deliver a virtually weightless lure to wary fish. He gave demonstrations to thousands of anglers at his public appearances. Though born left-handed, he could cast with either hand and customarily used his right, which he said was better for teaching right-handed students. **Mr. Kreh also fished with celebrities like the writer Thomas McGuane, the actor Michael Keaton, the singer Huey Lewis and Yvon Chouinard, founder of the outdoor sports and apparel company Patagonia. All of them appeared with him on the Outdoor Channel fishing show "[Buccaneers & Bones](#)."** Another acolyte is **Tom Brokaw, the former NBC News anchor and an avid fisherman.** Mr. Brokaw said in a telephone interview

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anchor and an avid fisherman. Mr. Brokaw said in a telephone interview this week that Mr. Kreh had helped better his double haul cast, perhaps the hardest in fly fishing. Watching Mr. Kreh cast, Mr. Brokaw said, reminded him of “Derek Jeter at shortstop — it’s all so fluid, and there’s no wasted motion.” “In Lefty’s system you turn the whole body to the right and then step forward,” he added, “and it’s kind of a ballet step that you make using your arms and your body, and when you do it well, it is really beautiful.” Bernard Victor Kreh was born on Feb. 26, 1925, in Frederick, Md., the first of four children. His father, Theodore, a bricklayer, died in 1932, and Lefty and his siblings were reared in meager circumstances by his mother, the former Helen Purdy, a homemaker, who later remarried. He learned to hunt and fish as a boy in the woods and streams of central Maryland, but did not discover fly-fishing, the most challenging form of the sport, until after World War II — after he had served in an Army artillery unit in Europe and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. In 1947, back in Maryland, where he had gained some renown as an expert in fishing smallmouth bass, he came to the attention of Joe Brooks, an outdoor writer a generation older than Mr. Kreh. “He’d heard about this guy on the Potomac River,” Mr. Kreh said in a telephone interview in 2007, “who was catching far more smallmouth than anyone else.” Mr. Brooks, who would become a famous angler in his own right, asked Mr. Kreh to guide him for

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smallmouth bass on the Potomac. Watching Mr. Brooks cast his fly rod with consummate grace and catch lots of fish with his artificial flies was a transforming experience for Mr. Kreh, who until that day had never seen anyone fly-cast. With Mr. Brooks’s help, he bought his first fly rod the next day, and the direction of his career was set. Mr. Brooks, who would become a famous angler in his own right, asked Mr. Kreh to guide him for smallmouth bass on the Potomac. It was also around this time that Mr. Kreh started working as a shift foreman at the federal government’s bioweapons laboratories at Camp Detrick, later renamed Fort Detrick, in Frederick. He liked the job because its irregular hours allowed him to spend a lot of time outdoors. Remaining at Fort Detrick until well into the 1960s, Mr. Kreh later became one of three workers there to be [infected with anthrax](#) and the only one to survive. Fort Detrick scientists reportedly collected anthrax from Mr. Kreh’s infection and gave it the official substrain name BVK-1.

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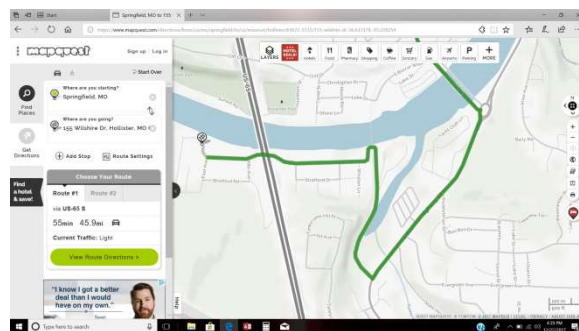
Mr. Kreh in a 2015 family photograph. The NBC newsman Tom Brokaw said watching Mr. Kreh reminded him of “Derek Jeter at shortstop — it’s all so fluid, and there’s no wasted motion.” By the early 1950s, Mr. Kreh had been writing a freelance outdoor column for The Frederick News-Post. He went on to write for other newspapers and the major outdoor magazines before landing in Baltimore as outdoor editor for The Baltimore Sun newspapers, where he remained for 18 years before retiring at age 65. Mr. Kreh hardly stopped working, though; he continued his busy career as a writer, photographer, casting instructor, product endorser and A-list angling celebrity. His wife, Evelyn Kreh, who acted as his business manager, [died in 2011](#). In addition to his granddaughter Samantha, he is survived by a son, Larry; a daughter, Victoria Huffman; a brother, Richard; a half brother, Michael Baumgardner; three more grandchildren; five great-grandchildren and one great-great

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grandson. Mr. Kreh’s favorite quarry were bonefish in salt water and smallmouth bass in fresh. In the 2007 interview, he called saltwater fly-fishing “a hell of a lot more of a challenge” than freshwater. In addition to having to play and land much bigger, stronger fish, he said, “You’ve got to be a tremendously better caster.”

Tight Lines, Lefty!

**“ A little while and I will be gone from among you. Whether, I cannot tell. From nowhere we come. Into nowhere we go. What is life? It is the flash of a firefly in the night. It is the breath of a Buffalo in the wintertime. It is the little shadow that runs across the grass and loses itself in the sunlight” Chief Crowfoot of the Blackfoot, 1830-1890.**



## Instructions to the Taneycomo Terrace Condo Club House.

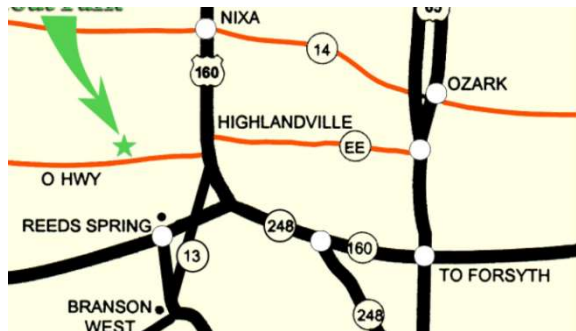
MTFA and EXPO meetings. When you go across the bridge from the landing take a right in the round-a-bout

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toward Hollister. Then take a right down along side Turkey Creek after you cross the Turkey Creek bridge. Keep on that road until you come to the condos. Take a left before the condo entrance and go pass the dumpsters to the next entrance. The club house is behind the dumpster.

Map to Mountain Springs Trout Park





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