



[www.MTFA-Springfield.org](http://www.MTFA-Springfield.org)

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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**

December 2019

Volume 13 No.12

**Notes for the December Meeting  
December 5 MTFA-Annual Meeting, Christmas Party at  
Golden Coral, Springfield @ 6:00 pm**

**Bring something to raffle and prepare to bid on great auction items.**

**Voting for 2020 Club Officers, Nominations are:**

**President – Dennis Stead**

**President Elect (Vice President) –Dan Ditzler**

**Secretary – Bruce Hinkston**

**Treasurer – Fred Brown**

**Executive Committee–Russ Doughty and Mike Kidd**

**Other Nominations can be accepted from the floor**

**Springfield Chapter Officers**

**President: Dennis Stead**

**417-380-3687**

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

**Secretary: Vacant**

**Treasurer: Fred Brown**

**417-693-2942**

**[runfreddiek@gmail.com](mailto:runfreddiek@gmail.com)**

***Your Annual Membership Dues:***

***Yes, they are due as of January 1, 2020. You should have received your membership form by email, complete with your personal information as of your 2019 form. Make any necessary changes to the information. Bring your form and your check for \$15, payable to the MTFA, to the Christmas party. Put it in an envelope and drop it in the membership box, or you can mail it or bring it to one of our monthly meetings. Yes, we will accept cash. Please have correct change.***

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***Fishing Reports:*** November 26, Dick Solomon: Fished Bennet Springs yesterday, the water is up some and a little stained, that didn't hinder the fishing. I fished mostly in the outlet stream or the Gut Hole, there were only a few fishing there and everyone was catching fish. I started off using a Hares Ear and then shifted to a Top Secret Midge both were good but not as good as my Tan Shammy Worm. There was a hatch of some sort and I saw a lady catch several nice ones one a Griffins Gnat. Don't know if there were any lunkers released or not but I netted two large ones and lost two. The workers were cleaning the Rearing Ponds most of the day, during that time I cleaned out the trees of unwanted trout indicators. I used my 30 ft converted camera pole to reach the floats. So far this year I have retrieved almost 100 of all sizes. Most are reusable. All in all it was a perfect day for fishing, we won't see many more days with that kind of weather during C/R.

## ***Annual Meeting is also the Christmas Party.***

Don't worry, it's mostly eating and fun with a very short business meeting to elect officers. We will meet at 6:00 pm at the Golden Coral on South Glenstone across from Lowe's. We will be in the group room in the NE corner of the building. Your cost is \$10 per person and the club will pick up the rest and the tip. Contact Eric Shinault at [ericshinault@gmail.com](mailto:ericshinault@gmail.com) or 417 581-8911. Also, bring something for us to raffle and be prepared to buy raffle tickets or bid on auction items. Proceeds will go to Pipkin Middle School needy kids. It'll be fun!

**Larry Wegmann has tied and generously donated two streamer flies for auction at the Christmas Party.**

Check 'em out below:



**And he is also donating a half day guided trip for two people with the Plateau Fly Shop, a \$250 value. Prepare to bid. Bring your check books.**

## ***Fish of the Month:***

### **Arctic Grayling**

I caught my first grayling when I was 15 years old on vacation in Alaska. I caught my second one last August. I thought they only occurred in Alaska (never mind the city of Grayling, Michigan) until I



was encouraging an Austrian friend to fly out to an Alaskan stream where he could find them. He wasn't interested as he could catch them in Austria. Since then, I have found that the grayling is widespread throughout the Arctic and Pacific drainages in Canada, Alaska, and Siberia, as well as the upper Missouri River drainage. They occur naturally in the Arctic Ocean basin and are native to Europe, where they are widespread from the United Kingdom and France to the Ural Mountains in Russia but do not occur in the southern parts of the continent. They have been introduced in many parts of the western US as far south as Arizona. They were even introduced to Morocco in 1948, but they do not appear to have become established there. I have heard that it is a "key subsistence species" for the Iñupiat people of the Alaska North Slope. In the British magazine "Trout and Salmon", one fishing specialist commented that "it's many years since I ate grayling ... an earthy taste -certainly never to be repeated. Yet I know some anglers who prefer them to trout."

What do the Brits know about tasty food!? Bob Randall

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***Project Healing Waters*** will hold its next meeting as a Christmas party for participants and volunteers on December 9 at the DAV Building at 2525 E Division St. The rod orders have been sent in and we will begin building them in Feb.

## ***Fly of the Month: Zonker***

The first time I ever saw a Zonker fly was when I pulled one out of a tree at Crane Creek. I didn't know what it was and had to ask an expert (Ralph Eichholz). I used it several times with success and it was soon my favorite fly. I tried to find it but couldn't. I wonder what happened to it. I'll bet it's in another tree somewhere. I've tied a few using different patterns but I think the zonker fly tied by Jeremy Hunt, owner of FlysandGuides in Branson, MO, has a good look to it. Printed with permission from FlysandGuides.

Flexi Cord Zonker <http://www.flysandguides.com/how-to-tie-flexi-cord-zonker>

Recipe:

Hook: TMC 5262 size 2-6 (or any streamer hook will work)

Thread: UTC 140 (white) or color to match the body

Body: Flexi-cord (silver) these come in several sizes, match the right size to the hook size

Wing: Rabbit strips (white)

Collar : Rabbit

Eyes: Prisma stick-ons (black) or whatever color you like.



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***Video of the Month:*** <https://howtoflyfish.orvis.com/video-lessons/chapter-eight-reading-water/406-correcting-common-casting-mistakes>

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***Link of the Month:*** ***4 Reasons to Ditch The Indicator And 2 Reasons to Use One***  
<https://thecatchandthehatch.com/4-reasons-to-ditch-the-indicator/?ffst=2t0hg-akm>

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**I Wish I'd Said That**  
**90% of the fishing will be done by 10% of people who say they do.**





## Operation Game Thief

If you witness or suspect a wildlife violation,  
report it to your local conservation agent or call the toll-free  
number 1-800-392-1111.

You may remain anonymous and you may ask to be considered  
for a reward if you wish.

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*Heeeey! Who knew that "the Fonz", AKA Henry Winkler is a Passionate Fly-Fisher*



"Since taking time off from  
his days as a producer and  
actor, ... he decided to give  
fly-fishing a try one day and  
pretty soon found that he

was hooked! Winkler admits to being a passionate fly-  
fisher and is known to record every fish that he catches.

However, he always releases every fish back into the

water, as he just does it for fun." He's even written a book called, I've Never  
Met An Idiot On The River: Reflections on Family, Photography, and Fly-

Fishing

*I have.*



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

More about us:

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