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MTFA_Springfield@yahoo.com

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

August 2021

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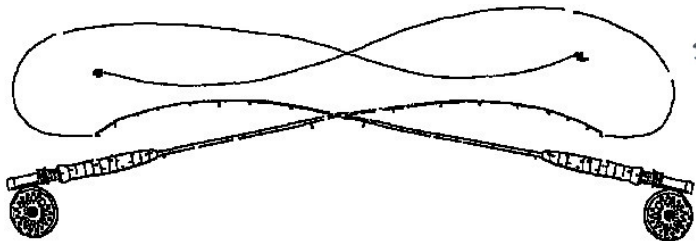
The August Meeting is Cancelled



Chapter News: Our Chapter President, Dan Ditzler, has resigned as president of the Springfield Chapter. Dan has to take some time off due to health concerns.

Unfortunately, because of work and family commitments, President-Elect (Vice President) Joe Wingett will not be able to step in to serve as President at this time due to work and family commitments.

Continued on page 2.



Insect-O-Rama:

Springfield Chapter Officers

President: Joe Wingett

President Elect:

Secretary: Bruce Hinkston

417 838-0713

BWHinkston@mchsi.com

Treasurer: Dennis Stead

417-380-3687

dmstead@aol.com

The MDC Springfield Nature Center has cancelled the 2021 Insect-O-Rama. For those of you who are new. This event features insects and how they interact with humans. MTFA was to be a part of that event, tying insect imitating flies. Some us would tie our flies on safety pins and let the kids wear them on their clothing. Some of those flies were fantasy flies as the one in the picture. Hopefully, we will be able to do this next year.



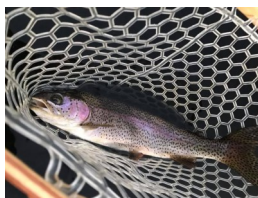
Chapter News continued: Vice President Joe Wingett will chair a meeting of the Executive Committee so that they can select replacements for President and Vice-President in accordance with the Springfield Chapter by-laws. The meeting will be held sometime in mid-August. If you have suggestions for nominees, contact Secretary Bruce Hinkston at BWHinkston@mchsi.com or 417 838-0713 ASAP.

Fishing Reports and Pics:

Taneycomo, 7/9/2021, Dick Solomon: “Well will wonders never cease, the water was off yesterday at Taney for a few hours. I caught over 30 fish and only used 4 baits. I started with a Micro jig from Dennis Stead painted Gray with Gray dubbing a a red hot spot, the bottom fly was a #20 Gray <my version> Scud with a red hot spot, I fished these two baits until I got a wind knot on my dropper and switched my dropper to a Primrose and Pearl. Caught several when all hell broke loose at # 1 falls about 50 little kids showed up and started wading the water so I moved upstream towards the dam to deeper water and started catching some bigger fish still with the Pearl on the bottom. By that time my arm was hurting from catching fish and I lost my Pearl and tied on a White Mini Jig on the bottom and lost it on a BIG fish so I headed home it was 12:30 and the water was back on at 1. Mike Kidd and Ron Ward was down at the Root Wad and was knocking them dead there too. All in all a good day fishing, I do need to work on my arms strength for the next trip.”



Taneycomo, 7/25/2021, Mike Kidd and John Bush:



Taneycomo, Dick Solomon: Fished Taney two days with Mike Kidd and caught several fish in the rebar and #1 outlet area. I fished Micro While Jigs and some dry flies.



Taneycomo, Mike Kidd, Russ Doughty, Wayne Frizzel: I took Wayne and Russ out in my boat on Taneycomo where we caught a few trout on Dennis Stead's hammer head jigs.

From Paul Sheppard: “Well, you might have known that when you fish with size 20 midge flies you can catch BIG fish but maybe you didn't know about catching bait or fly sized specimens like this sculpin. Yes, caught on a size 20 Ruby2 midge pattern. All other aquatic specimens caught were 11 inches or better. Had a good day fishing at Bennett Springs State Park in Missouri yesterday” (June 28) “for a couple of hours before the humidity drove me into my air conditioned car for the trip home. 20 or so in the net before quitting. 2wt fly rod- perfect for small streams. Have fun out there now but be safe!

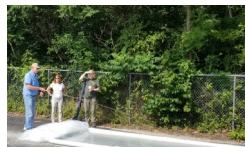
Paul (one of the few vaccinated here in Taney County)”



Branson Fly Fishing Expo Pics :

Activities and Prizes.

Quick summary by Dennis Stead: "Wednesday and Thursday morning were set up. On Thursday afternoon, we had a few people come through. It was not really great. Friday was much better. A lot of fly tyers cancelled, but we had more members so we did have a group of fly tyers and we had little more activity than Thursday. Saturday was the best day. We had maybe 36 fly tyers. We had 5 vendors and they had some activity. I don't know how this will turn out financially but I'm sure that we made something. I don't know if we made enough for a profit."



Kid's Korner



Fly Tying





Casting Thoughts:

Practice what you know are good techniques. I spent most of my casting time during the winter of 2020-2021 in the outflow stream at Bennett Spring. It might “simulate” a small stream with wild brookies back east in the Appalachians or a Rocky Mountain stream full of cut throats and surrounded tightly with cottonwoods and willows. I know, that’s an imaginative stretch but it’s what I tell myself. Here’s my point: trying to cast in those conditions means flipping my fly back up stream. It’s not good casting practice. I need to get out in my back yard and practice casting the right way. Especially before I shell out hundreds for a guided trip.

That lack of good casting practice showed up on the recent trip to the White River in Arkansas that Larry Olson and I took. Near the end of the day, the guide noticed that there were some big brown trout just upstream of a boulder and they were gently slurping up caddis flies from the surface. He asked if we were familiar with dry fly fishing and I replied that we were. He brought us to within casting distance. It was my turn to cast. He told me precisely where to place the fly. Accuracy was important or I could spook the fish. Some of my casts seemed to be good but the fly landed in the wrong place. Other casts were poorly executed and the leader landed in a puddle near the end of the line. Another cast was too high and the wind blew the fly a good ten feet off target. It could have been the broad side of a barn and I still wouldn’t have hit it. After several attempts, the fish were spooked. I turned to the guide and said that although I said I was familiar with dry fly fishing, I didn’t say I was any good at it. We backed off for about 20 minutes and went back. This time it was Larry’s turn.

I must point out that Larry usually makes long casts to strip steamers which makes much better practice for this application. A few casts later: Bingo! He placed it just upstream of the trophy of the day and a big brownie rose to slurp in the size 18 slack wing parachute caddis.

The rest is history (and pictures). Practice casting. Practice casting. Practice casting.

Bob Randall

Fly Line 101

Fly lines are classified by weight, taper, and density (if they float or sink). Fly lines are categorized by weight into a number system, which runs from number 1, which is the lightest, to number 15, which is the heaviest. The lighter lines are more delicate in presentation, and they cast small flies well. The heavier lines are less delicate in presentation, but provide the power to cast large, wind resistant, and heavy flies. Fly lines in the 4-10 range are the most common.. Most trout fishing situations call for a line between 4-6. For bass, line weights between 7-9 should be ideal. Panfish rods fall between the trout and bass rod. The chart below may clarify things a little bit for you, but please keep in mind this chart is just a generalization. It is to be used only as a rough guide. The density of fly lines also differ. There are floating lines which are meant to always stay on top of the water's surface. There are sinking lines which are meant to stay below the surface, and there are lines that fall in between the two different categories. Your first fly line should be a floating line. They are the most common, the most versatile, and the easiest to learn with. The tapers also differ to suit different conditions. There are five main types of fly line tapers: 1 - (WF) weight forward (this is the standard taper for trout fishing). 2 - Bass bug/saltwater/muskie tapers, (Specialty fly lines). 3 - (DT) double taper (good fly line for trout fishing, unless you need to make long casts or it's windy). 4 - (ST) shooting taper (basically a weight forward line on steroids). 5 - (L) level (has the exact same width and weight the entire length of the line. It floats great, the least expensive of all fly lines, but is more difficult to cast and control. I would not recommend a beginner to use this type of line).

Written by Gary Davisson, newsletter editor of the MTFA-Kansas City Chapter

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)