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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

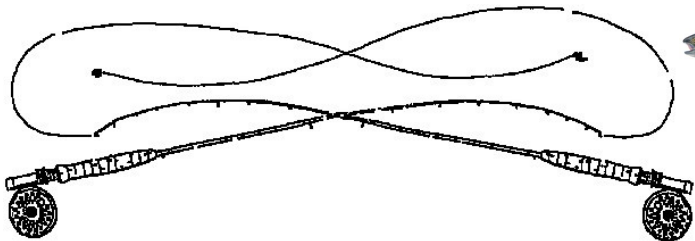
November 2023

Volume 17 No. 11

**The November 2023 Meeting is on November 2  
at 6 pm At the Library Center in Community Room B**

Our guest speaker for the November meeting will be Tyler Ham. He is with the Missouri Department of Conservation at the Southwest Regional Office on Mayfair in Springfield. He is responsible for the management of fish in Fellows Lake and James River. He was with us in February providing a program on Fellows Lake. He will come back and discuss the James River. Tyler said their surveys of the river near Kerr Access on the lower James. He will provide fishing opportunities, and his knowledge of the river. Tyler said he researched and will give some history to the river over the years. Tyler did a great presentation with Fellows Lake, and I expect this to be even better.

*Kim Schultz*



*We received this email from the MDC requesting assistance in an educational program at Bennett Spring.*

**Springfield Chapter Officers**

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**Secretary: Bruce Hinkston**

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Greetings,

I'm a Naturalist at the Springfield Nature Center and I'm in charge of our Conservation Teens program. I will be taking a group of teens fishing at Bennett Spring on Saturday, Nov. 18. We will likely arrive there at about 10:15AM and stay until about 3:15PM. My hope is to teach the teens fly fishing and spin casting. I was hoping 1 or 2 members of the Missouri Trout Fisherman Association might be willing to come and help teach. Please let me know if you're available and thank you for your time and consideration!

Morgan Wyatt

Naturalist

Springfield Conservation Nature Center

4601 S Nature Center Way

Springfield, MO 65804

(417)888-4237

**Teaching opportunity:**

Saturday, November 18, we will be working with the Department of Conservation in a fly and spin fishing event for teens at Bennett Spring State Park. Although, the letter posted above requests 1 or 2 people, we can provide one on one instruction if more sign up. If you are available and willing, sign up for the event at the next meeting this coming Thursday evening or contact me at [bobbyleensandy@gmail.com](mailto:bobbyleensandy@gmail.com) or Kim Schultz at [kim\\_schultz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kim_schultz@sbcglobal.net).



**Important information:**

The December meeting and Christmas Party will be held one week later than usual . It will be December 14, the second Thursday in December.

*Bob Randall*

## Fishing Reports:



**Larry Olson, 10/11/2023, Bennett Spring, Fished between Gut Hole and Whistle Bridge, successful flies were Pheasant tail & partridge soft hackle and the Griffith's Gnat. Landed 9.**

**Pat Taggart, 10/11/2023, Bennett Spring, fished morning only, above concrete dam, successful fly was the Sponge Bug, a fly developed by his brother Mike. Landed 3.**

**Bob Randall, 10/11/2023, Bennett Spring, Fished Gut Hole, successful flies were white chamois worm and grey scud. Landed 8.**

**Bob, Pat, and Larry ate lunch at Pavilion B after fishing.**

**John Dozier, 10/14/2023, Lake Taneycomo, Arrived around 830 and the lot was full by the Pavillion. Some parking up by number one. Finally got ready and went down path to the river. Started with sculpin on intermediate line, got a lot of bumps. Switch to a different sculpin and a floating line. Caught 12 inch Brown and 2 rainbows around 18 inches each Got to talk to Paul**

**from Cast a Fly. Stop to go to chili feed. Will fish some more after lunch.**



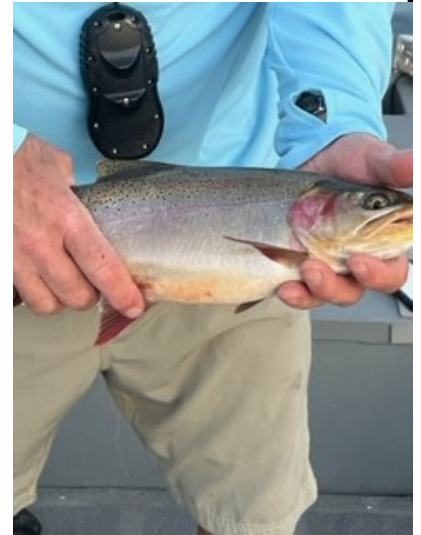
**Wayne Essary, Deb Hall  
10\23\2023,  
"Norfork it's fishing  
good!"**





## Fishing Reports:

**Les Wilson:** Fished White River Rim Shoals to Cotter 10/17, 18 & 19 using zig jigs not fantastic but steady catching, olive/orange olive/ginger were out best colors. Ramp was crowded 10/20 so we decided to go look at Norfolk. With the low flow there we were afraid of crowds. First stop Ackerman(handicap) access it was very busy so we went on to the dam. We were pleasantly surprised with few wade fishermen. Peggy started with an olive wooly and I with a gray scud. After she had brought 10 to hand and I one....I made the switch and we both proceeded to wear them and our selves out. On Saturday we returned to the White with same pattern and results of earlier in the week but we did quit early to watch Mizzou beat South Carolina. Sunday 10/22 we decided to go to Buffalo Shoals motor up and wade there. Upon arrival we could not even find a parking spot. We came back to camp organized equipment and watched the Chiefs. Monday we returned to Buffalo City/Shoals it was busy but we fished until 230 with steady results, the olive/ginger zig jig was the hottest. Heading back to below the dam at Norfolk as soon as it gets light this morning then back over to Long Creek this evening for a couple days. This will likely be our last trip until Thanksgiving.



Getting ready to fix fish ladder

**Mike Kidd:** "Taney is extremely crowded currently."  
"Pellet fly with hares ear dropper is productive, sculpins are working stripped slowly."



Mike's fishing buddy,  
Kenny at Taneycomo



Shepherd of the Hills Fish Hatchery





## **Fishing Reports:**

**10/11/23 Stockton Lake: Rod Pennington and I fished the twin bridges area yesterday. Rod and I caught eleven white bass (largest just under 16"), two carp, two small mouth, two bluegills and a catfish. Nice day to be out. Wind SSE 10-15 MPR. Elevation= 862.2 (ft MSL)**

**10/12/23 Stockton Lake: Rod and I fished twin bridges wind SSW 15-20 MPR white caps all afternoon. There was an eagle, osprey that flew overhead. Deer in the trail on the drive out. 10 WB (largest measured 15.5") four bluegills, in addition Rod caught a drum, wall-eye. Elevation= 862.25 (ft MSL)**



**10/14/23 Bull Shoals Lake: Elevation 654.97 Feet MSL (Level is 4.03 feet below full pool of 659.00) The Branson Chapter had the annual chili feed at the Shepperd of the Hills Hatchery Pavilion. It was noted the fish ladder at #3 outlet that allows the MDC to collect brown eggs had some damage with erosion of the bank and no water flowing. (There was an update to the fish ladder that there are people working on it to repair it).**



**After the chili feed, Rod and I drove to Bull Shoals. We stopped at the Pothole, Beaver Creek. The lake level down four feet, it looked like conditions from ten years ago. One would easily wade the pothole, and Beaver Creek was a stream past the maiden hole. It was good to get out and see the lake down and seeing familiar fishing spots from the old days.**



## **Fishing Reports:**



***Kim Schultz report continued:***

***10/18/23 Stockton Lake: Rod and I returned to Twin bridges. There was a light SSW wind that shifted west, and the lake had minimal wave action. Rod fished the point with success with four white bass, drum, walleye, bluegill.***

***10/20/2023 Stockton Lake Hwy 245 bridge 7-10 WNW wind. Condition good to start wind switched to the south late afternoon. On the drive, we stopped at Cedar Ridge to look it over before fishing the cove at Hwy 245. Rod caught a limit of white bass, and small line bass. I managed two white bass. Rod decided midway through the trip to fish a different point and***

***found the white bass. The fish cleaned measured 13-15 inches. There were a few people out and group from plateau where fishing.***

***10/23/23 Stockton Lake: Jenn (my daughter) and I fished twin bridges with 10 to 15 MPR south wind. Jenn fished from a kayak and enjoyed the scenery and wildlife. She saw deer come to the water for a drink and catching a glimpse of a resident otter. I caught six white bass and a 15-inch smallmouth.***

***10/25/23 Stockton Lake: Rod and I returned to Twin Bridges with a 5-8 MPR SSW wind. The lake has minimal wave action with occasional riffle on the surface. Rod and I caught eleven white bass, smallmouth bass, drum, two walleye, a couple bluegills. Elevation= 861 (ft MSL)***

***The forecast is a change in the weather with the first frost coming this weekend and more north winds. This will cool the water and bring the fish to the water's edge and small coves. The fishing will get much better for the next couple of weeks. Kim Schultz***

## Schedule of Events

**2023**      ***Trout Catch and Release Season:***

***Second Friday in November to the second Monday in February***

November 2, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Monthly Chapter Meeting, Library Center, Community Room B, Tyler Ham from MDC will discuss the James River

November 4, Stream Team Cleanup: check in at Nature Center during the day for bags and gloves

November 16, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Chapter Fly Tying at Library Center, Community Room B

***December 14, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Christmas Party & Installation of 2024 officers***

December 26, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Fly tying/demonstrations at MDC Nature Center

December 28, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Chapter Fly Tying at Library Center, Community Room B

**2024**

January 4, 6:00PM -9:00PM: Monthly Chapter Meeting, Library Center, Community Room B

January 25, 6:00PM -9:00PM: Monthly Chapter Meeting, Library Center, Community Room B

Feb 1, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Monthly Chapter Meeting, Library Center, Community Room B,

February 22, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Chapter Fly Tying at Library Center, Community Room B

March 7, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Monthly Chapter Meeting, Library Center, Community Room B

March 28, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Chapter Fly Tying at Library Center, Community Room B

April 04, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Monthly Chapter Meeting, Library Center, Community Room B

April 25, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Chapter Fly Tying at Library Center, Community Room B

May 2, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Monthly Chapter Meeting, Library Center, Community Room B

May 23, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Chapter Fly Tying at Library Center, Community Room B

June 06, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Monthly Chapter Meeting, Library Center, Community Room B

June 27, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Chapter Fly Tying at Library Center, Community Room B

**JULY 4, NO MEETING**

July 25, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Chapter Fly Tying at Library Center, Community Room B

Aug 01, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Monthly Chapter Meeting, Library Center, Community Room B

Aug 22, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Chapter Fly Tying at Library Center, Community Room B

Sept 05, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Monthly Chapter Meeting, Library Center, Community Room B

September 26, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Chapter Fly Tying at Library Center, Community Room B

October 3, 6:00PM - 9:00PM : Monthly Chapter Meeting, Library Center, ***Community Room A***

October 24, 6:00PM - 9:00PM: Chapter Fly Tying at Library Center, Community Room B

November 7, November 28, December 5, December 26





***Our guest speaker for the October meeting was Ben Parnell with the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC). He discussed Stockton Lake and provided information about the fish that are in the lake, and the 400 under waters structures that the MDC provide for fish habitat. He will provide the MDC role to provide outstanding***

***fishing opportunities and information to fishing Stockton Lake.***





## **Missed Takes by Ted Shuck of Centennial, Colorado**

**When you get a lot of "missed takes", you have to wonder if they are really takes or refusals. In the last few years, I have been fishing a lot more dry flies than I have previously. I have noticed several trout behaviors that I used to lump into the "missed take" category.**

- 1. Trout rises to fly, mouth open, but veers aside at the last second. This is clearly a refusal, but looks like a missed take unless you are able to watch it closely.**
- 2. Trout rises to fly, mouth closed, pokes the fly with its nose. The trout may come back and poke the fly repeatedly and may eventually take the fly. In my experience, if I try to strike when the trout is just poking the fly the fish will spook and not take on subsequent casts. It is rare that I can control my desire to strike when a fish pokes, but my hookup percentage increases when I do.**
- 3. Trout rises to fly and swirls next to it, causing the fly to sink. This one looks very much like a real take, but the trout's mouth does not open and may not even get close to the fly. Usually the closest part of the fish to the fly is the dorsal fin as it creates the swirl and suction that will sink the fly. On the rare occasion that I can resist the temptation to strike, the fish may come back to take the sunken fly. These behaviors make sense for an educated trout exploring possible food sources on the surface, but can drive the dry fly fisherman nuts.**

**This was a post by Ted Shuck in the Trout Unlimited Open Forum Discussion page. It is Reprinted with his permission.**



# REEL RECOVERY

*Be Well! Fish On!*

All proceeds will fund an annual 3-day, 2-night retreat at Westover Farms in April 2024 for 10 men living with cancer and volunteers.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize - Loomis IMX-PRO V2 Fly Rod: 9', 5wt with tube and rod bag MSRP \$595
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - Echo Trout X Series Fly Rod: 9', 5wt with tube & bag MSRP \$399
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize - ORVIS Clearwater Combo: 9', 5wt rod, reel, line, carry case MSRP \$295
- 4<sup>th</sup> Prize - Sage Spectrum LT Series 5/6 MSRP \$400. Loaded with Rio Gold Premier Slick cast Fly Line MSRP \$129
- 5<sup>th</sup> Prize - Scientific Anglers Amplitude "TROUT" Floating Fly Line: WF-5-F MSRP \$129
- 6<sup>th</sup> Prize - Amplitude Smooth Infinity Taper Floating Fly Line: WF-5-F MSRP \$99
- 7<sup>th</sup> Prize - Simms Dry Creek Sling Pack 15L: MSRP \$229
- 8<sup>th</sup> Prize - Bass Pro Shops: \$100 GIFT CARD



## Reel Recovery Missouri Chapter

Raffle Fundraiser  
\$20 per ticket or 3 for \$40



### Three ways to pay:

1. Cash
2. Check payable to Reel Recovery with "Missouri Retreat" in memo section. Mail to: Terry Hildebrandt, 4917 Karington Place Ct., St. Louis, MO 63129-7106
3. Venmo: Reel Recovery Missouri (last four digits of phone # 9798)



**venmo**

1 ticket = 1 entry. No limit on entries.  
Items will be mailed to the winners.

**Drawing on November 30, 2023**

Questions? Contact Terry Hildebrandt,  
Missouri State Reel Recovery Co-coordinator at  
[terryh.reelrecovery@gmail.com](mailto:terryh.reelrecovery@gmail.com) or (314) 303-9798.

***Your support is greatly appreciated!***



## Tying the Pheasant Tail and Partridge

Larry Olson presented the demonstration



### *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](mailto:bobbyleensandy@gmail.com)

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E-mail [MTFA\\_Springfield@yahoo.com](mailto:MTFA_Springfield@yahoo.com)

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