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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

March 2025

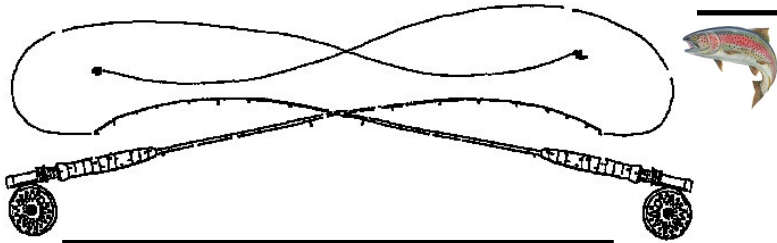
Volume 19 No.

The March club meeting will be held at the Library Center Auditorium. The meeting date is March 6, 2025.

Hope all is going well for the membership. We have had some really cold weather recently; consequently, there is not much to report regarding recent member's fishing endeavors. The February meeting featured local guide, Rudy Chelednik. Rudy gave a very informative and enjoyable talk. I would encourage the membership to support Rudy and the other local guides. At the March 6, 2025, meeting Ben Havens will give a presentation on the status of the hatchery construction at Bennett Springs State Park. Also the MTFA state convention will be held March 8, 2025, at Bennett Springs State Park.

Happy fishing!

Pat Taggart



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Chapter News:



At the May meeting club member Ron Ward will give a presentation on his recent bonefishing trip to Andros Island in the Bahamas. This should be an entertaining and informative presentation.

We need fly tiers at the following events:

March 18, 2025—Springfield Nature Center 1PM-4PM—4 volunteers

March 19 thru March 22, 2025—MoNASP State tournament—Branson Convention Center, Branson, Mo—Need 2 volunteers each day. Dennis Stead has volunteered for Saturday 3/22/2025

Let me know if you can help out—Pat Taggart, I will volunteer at both above.

Upcoming events and happenings:

The Missouri Trout Fisherman's Association Annual meeting is approaching, here is the text of the email for the event:

"Hi all,

If I remember correctly the second Saturday in March was approved as the annual meeting day for the Pre-Derby meeting at Bennett. That looks to be March 8th at 1:00 PM sharp. We hope to have the usual meeting room and will notify if that changes.

Hope everyone is keeping warm and safe.

Please forward this to any chapter members interested in attending.

Greg Darlington"

If you would like to be a delegate, please let me know. Club Secretary Linda Chase has volunteered to be one of the 3 delegates.

I talked with Rudy Martinez at the Springfield Nature Center and he is asking for fly tiers for the following dates:

March 18 from 1:00PM til 4:00PM

August 8 from 6:30PM til 9:00PM— Insect-O-Rama

December 30 from 1:00PM til 4:00PM

The March 18 event proceeds the 2025 International Sowbug Roundup see details below.

Rudy Chelednik's business information is below:


Phone: 724-599-6508

[GUIDED TRIPS](#) | [Ozark Hills Anglers](#)

Here is Rudy's website


OZARK HILLS - ANGLERS -

[ABOUT](#)[GUIDED TRIPS](#)[FISHING REPORT](#)



FULL DAY

\$600 for 1 or 2 Anglers. A full day trip consists of 8 hours of guided fishing. All fishing equipment and flies will be provided. Lunch, drinks and snacks are provided. Anglers must purchase a fishing license and a trout stamp.



HALF DAY

\$400 for 1 or 2 Anglers. A half day trip consists of 4 hours of guided fishing. All fishing equipment and flies are provided. Anglers must purchase a fishing license and trout stamp. (Drinks and snacks are provided during half day trips)

[BOOK NOW](#)

[Book a Trip!](#)

Fishing Reports:

Below is from Ron Ward



John Smallwood, Mike Crocker, Michael Crocker, and I joined Mad Rivers Outfitters of Columbus, OH for a sponsored trip to Andros Island Bonefish Club in the Bahamas.

This was a 6-day trip to Andros for a chance to land large bonefish, i.e. 10+ lbs.

None of us four caught that big one, but some people from our group did land 6 to 8 lb fish. One 10 pounder was landed by Greg Peterson of our group. Another one thought to be that size was hooked by Richard, but he provided a snack for a shark.

Several nice fish were lost to sharks during the fight or after release, including one of Mike's.

We did land some nice bones in the 4 to 5 lb range. Most were around 3 lbs.

We also caught snappers and barracudas.

Conditions were not ideal, tides, wind, and clouds made it very difficult to see the fish or cast a fly close enough for a take.

We also had a 12 ft hammerhead shark within feet of our boat one day.

From Kim Schultz

Just a reminder, we will tie and discuss the soft hackle fly this Thursday, February 27, 2025, at the Library Center on South Campbell.

Soft Hackle Fly

This month at our fly-tying session, let's discuss the soft hackle fly. Fishing literature tells us the fly was probably used for many centuries. It remains popular in Scotland for many years since. When fly fishing took off in the eastern states, Theodore Gordon had success with dry flies and corresponded with Halford in England. Thus, the wet fly was present but not as popular as the dry fly.

There are authors in the United States, who described wet flies in the last century. Today, we recall Sylvester Nemes, Ernest Schwiebert, James Leisenring, and others writing about the success of wet flies, especially the soft hackle, with influences from the Scottish traditions, credit to W.C. Stewart (1857).

The soft hackle is an easy tie, with thread or floss for the body and a feather from a game bird wrapped perpendicular to the hook behind the eye. I will provide bird skins, from partridge, pheasant, starling and more for you to pluck. If time, we can discuss how to fish the fly in our local waters.

Orange Partridge

Hook: dry fly hook 12-18

Thread: orange 8/0 (use what you have)

Hackle: partridge neck feather

Thorax (optional): natural dubbing

There will be different color floss available to tie different colored flies

The Soft-Hackled Fly and Tiny Soft Hackles

A Trout Fisherman's Guide

SECOND EDITION

Sylvester Nemes



Starling and Herl

March Brown



North Arkansas Fly Fishers
Proudly Presents the

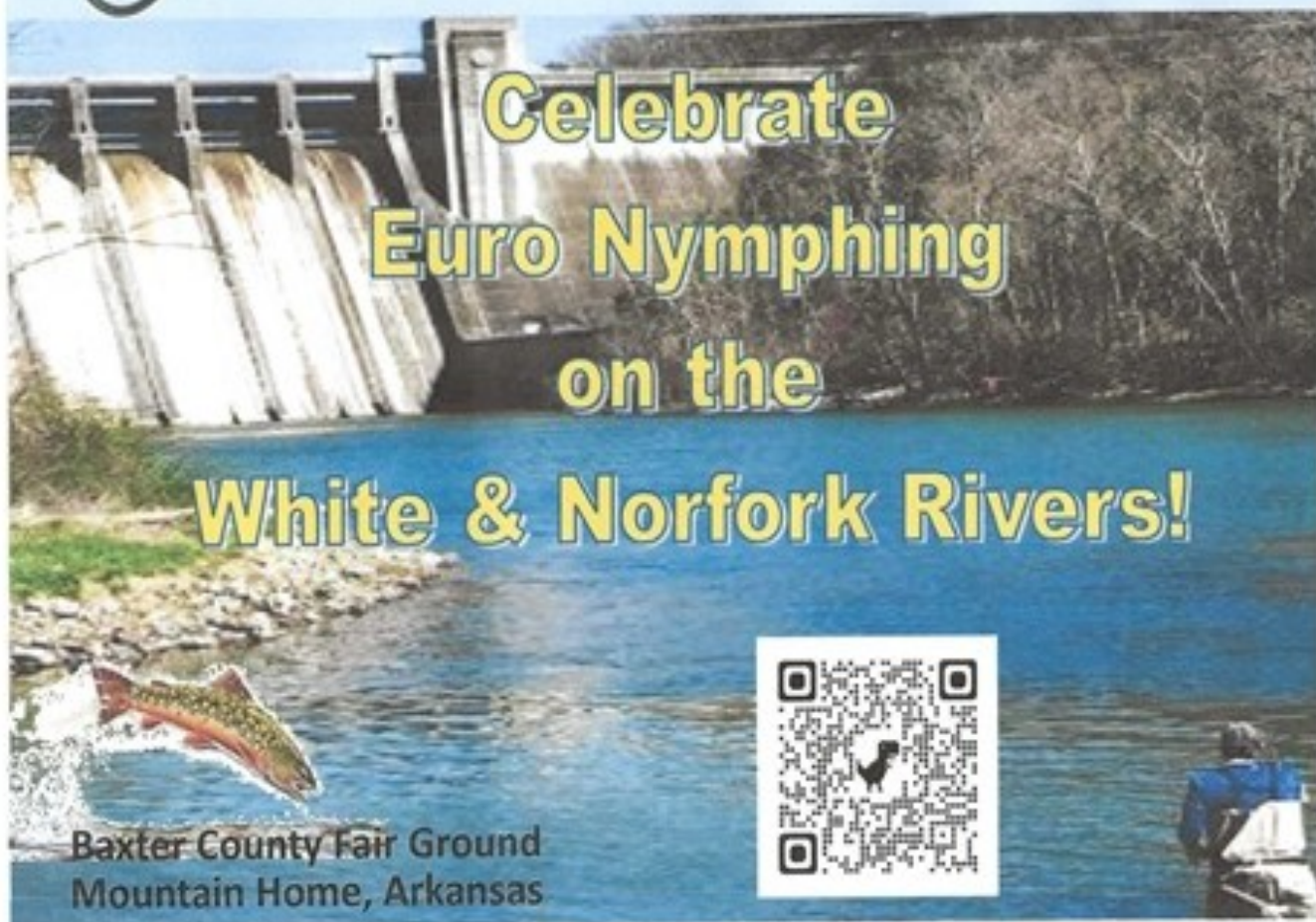
2025
INTERNATIONAL
SOWBUG ROUNDUP

March 27th—29th, 2025



Celebrate
Euro Nymphing
on the

White & Norfork Rivers!



Baxter County Fair Ground
Mountain Home, Arkansas



Christian Andrews provided the below information regarding members who would like to donate flies or tie these at the monthly fly tying sessions

Christian Andrews has challenged the members to tie flies for <https://www.tieathon.org/> . He will award one of his handcrafted bobbins to the member who contributes the most 100 fly batches by March 31, 2025.

The options are:

Adams sizes #14-18

Beetles sizes #14-18

Blue Winged Olives sizes #18-22

Clouser Minnows sizes #4-8

Copper Johns sizes #12-18

Chironomids sizes #14-20

Elk Hair Caddises sizes #14-18

Foam Spiders sizes #12-18

Griffith Gnats sizes #20-22

Hare's Ear Nymphs sizes #12-16

Hoppers / Chubby Chernobyls sizes #10-14

Beadhead Eggs (trout) sizes #12-14

Pat's Rubber Legs sizes #6-12

Pheasant Tails sizes #14-18

Poppers sizes #6-14

Soft hackles sizes #14-16

Sow bugs sizes #14-18

Squishy worms / San Juan Worms sizes #10-14

Wooly Buggers sizes #8-12

Examples of these flies can be found on the Ti-A-Thon YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@tie-a-thon8292>

Schedule of Events:

March 6, 2025: Monthly Meeting 6PM-9PM Library Center, Auditorium

March 18, 2025: Springfield Nature Center—fly tying 1:00PM til 4:00PM

March 19 thru March 22: 2025 International Sowbug Roundup Mountain Home, Arkansas

March 27, 2025: Fly Tying 6PM-9PM Library Center, Community Room B

April 3, 2025: Monthly Meeting Library Center 6PM-9PM Auditorium

April 24, 2025: Fly Tying Library Center 6PM-9PM Community Room B

May 1, 2025: Monthly Meeting Library Center 6PM-9PM Community Room A

May 17 & 18 2025: Missouri Trout Fisherman's Association Derby at Bennett Springs

May 22, 2025: Fly Tying Library Ceter 6PM-9PM Community Room B

June 5, 2025: Monthly meeting Library Center 5:30PM—9:00PM Community Room B

June 26, 2025: Fly Tying Library Center Community Room A 5:30PM-9:00PM

July no meetings—regular meeting canceled due to July 4 and fly tying canceled due no room availability

August 7, 2025: Monthly meeting Library Center 5:30PM-9:00PM Community Room B

August 8, 2025: Insect-O-Rama Springfield Nature Center 6:30PM til 9:00PM

August 28, 2025: Fly Tying Library Center Community Room B 5:30PM-9:00PM

September 4, 2025: Monthly Meeting Library Center 5:30PM-9:00PM Community Room B

September 25, 2025: Fly Tying Library Center 5:30PM-9:00PM Community Room B

October 2, 2025: Monthly Meeting Library Center Community Room B 5:30PM-9:00PM

October 23, 2025: Fly Tying Community Library Center Room B 5:30PM-9:00PM

November 6, 2025: Monthly Library Center Meeting Auditorium 100 5:30PM-9:00PM

November—no fly tying due to Thanksgiving Day

December 4, 2025: Annual Christmas Dinner at Golden Corral



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 Pat Taggart: cptaggart@sbcglobal.net

More about us: MTFA Website www.MTFA-Springfield.org

Facebook facebook.com/groups/MTFA.Springfield/

E-mail MTFA_Springfield@yahoo.com

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