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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

October 2025

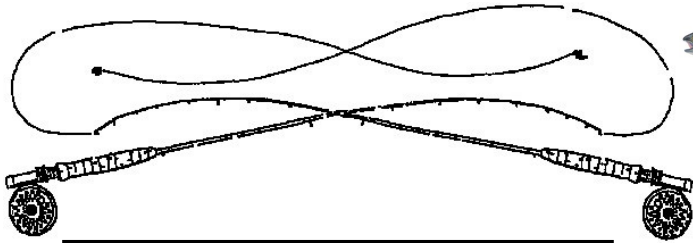
Volume 19 No. 10

The regular meeting will be held on Thursday October 2 in Room B at the Springfield Library Center 5:30pm until 9:00 pm. The featured speakers will be "Think like a fish".

I recently talked with Kim Schultz about the hatchery construction at Bennett Springs State Park. Kim stated that all the construction equipment and materials are being removed. Sounds like the general contractor could not get the project completed; thus, construction was halted. We have had another successful fly fishing school, headed by Bob Randall. Many thanks to Bob and all who helped!

Happy fishing!

Pat Taggart



Springfield Chapter Officers

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Chapter News



Michael Kidd has reported that Bill Shank has passed away.

Upcoming events and happenings:

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

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

Current members committed to this event:

October 14, 2025, area wide fly tying at Emmanuel Lutheran Church—monthly fly tying, see below in this newsletter.

Beginning Fly Fishing Class 2.0. The Nature Center and the MTFA Springfield Chapter will co-sponsor this event. October 4, 2025—attendees will fish at Roaring River State Park 8:30am til Noon. See below for additional details.

October 10 and 11, 2025—White River Fly Fishers Expo at the Branson-Hollister Lions Club building, see further details in this newsletter.

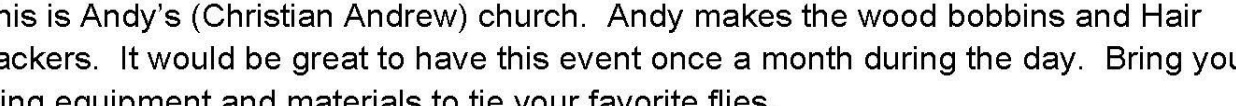
Fly fishing for beginners: Two-part program –Bob Randall



Thanks to everyone who helped. I think we had a pretty good time. Photos attached. Bob



A map snippet showing the location of Quail Ridge East Apartments. The apartment complex is marked with a black dot and labeled. It is situated near a green area, possibly a park or golf course. Surrounding streets include Camber, London Ave, and E Wilshire St. The map also shows a road labeled 'D' and another labeled 'K'.



We have a number of fly tying clubs in the surrounding area, MTFA, WRFF, TLFF, SWFF, MAKO and the Bennett Springs fly ties. You are invited. Not a member of one of these club, that is OK, you too are invited.

JOIN US

Fishing Reports:

Here are some photos from the August 15, 2025, trip to Bennett Springs. Photos provided by Kim Schultz



The outlet early morning



Arch Bridge and Andy catching one!



Fishing Report from Kim Schultz:

Bennett Spring State Park late summer fishing report 20251025 by Kim Schultz

Rod and I have been to Bennett Spring numerous times the last two months. The fishing has been good with morning fishing stripping a streamer of wooly bugger through the water column. The afternoon, the trout begin to hit emergers (midges or anything else wiggling under the surface). I have found the crackle back in a variety of colors works very good as a dry fly. It does not need to be small fly, a #14 is very effective. Here is my reports for August and September:

AUG 8, 2025: Bennett Spring State Park

Rod made the call for a club outing at BS. Rod, Bob Andy, Linda and I fished in zone 2. Rod and I started at the Bluff hole and caught a few trout. Linda came in later and fished with us. After a few hours moved upstream to the corner where Bob and Andy were fishing. Bob reported they the fishing was good. Everyone except for me stopped for lunch. I stayed until late afternoon fishing the corner hike with many fish in the stream.

AUG 15, 2025: Bennett Spring State Park

I fished BS today and in the water by 8 AM. I stopped at 3:30 PM and kept three trout and caught twenty-six. I saw a water snake that swam towards a fisherwoman, she did get an immediate fright but stood her ground. I saw it swimming towards her and gave a heads up. She kept cool about it. I did not see many trout on top water; a #10 Pistol Pete was the best lure fishing the afternoon.

AUG 19, 2025: Bennett Spring State Park

Rod called me the night before letting me know he and his brother-in-law Terry would be fishing Bennett Spring. I was slow leaving Springfield and it was after 8 AM until I made it into the park. Rod and Terry were fishing above the Whistle Bridge. I drove from the spring to the Niangua River taking a few photos of the spring since the was a fog on the water and there was one scenic view after another. My last trip I tied up a few Pistol Pete flies, and the trout were for several periods of time throughout the day giving chase, so I tied a few more for this trip. However, they were not as effective this day. I did fish many streams of assorted sizes and description. My best rapid catching was wading upstream from the corner and taking trout on dry flies along the high banks fishing river right. I fished later, calling it a day after six PM with nineteen trout caught and released.

Kim Schultz fishing report continued:

AUG 26, 2025: Bennett Spring State Park

I fished BS today with Bob Randall and Andy Andrews already in the water when I first entered the water at 7:30 AM. I caught thirty-five trout and one green sunfish with five trout near sixteen inches. It was a good day. Glad to see and Andy and Bob on the water.

AUG 29, 2025: Bennett Spring State Park

I fished the corner and finished at 2PM, still not many people. I finished with thirty-three trout and one green sunfish. The upstream water from the corner still good for dry flies.

Sept 2, 2025: Bennett Spring State Park

I fished Bennett Spring today. I was there before sunrise and started with the morning horn (7:30AM). It was a pleasant day with occasional cloud cover. Bob and Andy met me at the MTFA Memorial. It was a light crowd and a slow beginning with only a few trout caught. Andy and I fished the corner with Bob fishing the opposite bank. After an hour, I moved up stream and put on a crackle back fishing it dry. I called it quits at 4:30PM and released forty trout, one was at least three pounds, and several more near fifteen inches. It was a good day of fishing and a good day to be in the water.

Sept 3 – Sept 10, 2025: I went to Michigan for a funeral. I did spend some time at the lake casting out to blue-gill and bass. My brother and I did get to fish early one morning for a mess of blue gill.

Sept 15, 2025: Bennett Spring State Park (BS)

My daughter can fish occasionally on Monday. I told Jenn about some success at BS. We left Springfield after 10AM, a late start. So, we started to fish a little after 11. We fished the shallow water below the Arch bridge. We did find a few trout ready to take dry flies and #14 crackle back seems to be a good fly to use on recent trips. We caught a shower at 2:30PM and called it quits, we caught 25 trout for 3.5 hours of fishing.

Sept 19, 2025: Bennett Spring State Park

I return to Bennett Spring; the MDC announced a halt of work on the Hatchery. One must wonder what is next. The area is a mess with exposed rebar, incomplete work on the raceways, and exposed dirt. I hope they can come up with a plan and find a contractor to finish the job. I fished the corner sticking with the crackle back dry flies with success. I finished the day with thirty trout.

Kim Schultz fishing report continued:

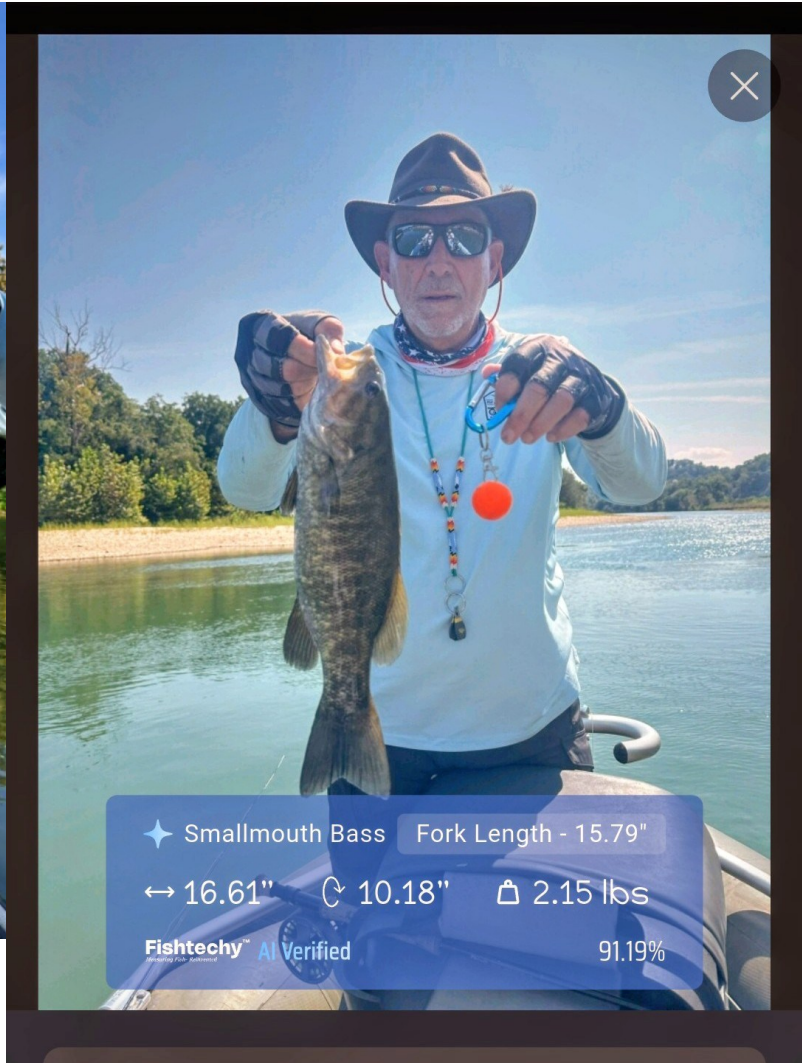
Sept 24, 2025: Bennett Spring State Park.

I left Springfield 6:30 AM with rain on the windshield. The rain let up on the drive. I did see an eagle a few miles out of the park and a small deer feeding along the roadside. The day was overcast with a few sprinkles throughout the day. Rod and his brother-in-law Terry were already in the water fishing the whistle bridge. I started the day above the outlet in zone 2 and fished my way upstream. I managed ten trout by noon, Rod and Terry were picking up fish, catching them on a slow retrieve. They left at noon. I move up from the corner to test the crackle backs again. The catching was steady with more people moving in mid-afternoon. The day was overcast with occasional sprinkles but not enough to wear a raincoat. It was 4:30PM, a clap the thunder was heard, I was able to finish fishing at the corner, slow pull a crackle back through the water column to pick up a few more trout, did catch one nearly eighteen inches. I finished the day with forty-one trout. When I returned to the truck and pulling off my waders the rain returned with a drenching rain.

Overall, the fishing at Bennett Spring has been good. I would recommend using different methods of fishing from stripping a fly, to fishing upstream throwing a dry. I figure a few more trips to Bennett Spring before heading to the lakes to find white bass off the points.

Ron Ward posted the following:

Ron Ward posted the following:



Fished upper Illinois River near Talequah with Donovan Clary Fishing and TriLakes Flyfishers. Everyone had nice fish.

I then fished lower Illinois with Chris King and had some nice stripers.

Fishing report from David Reynolds:

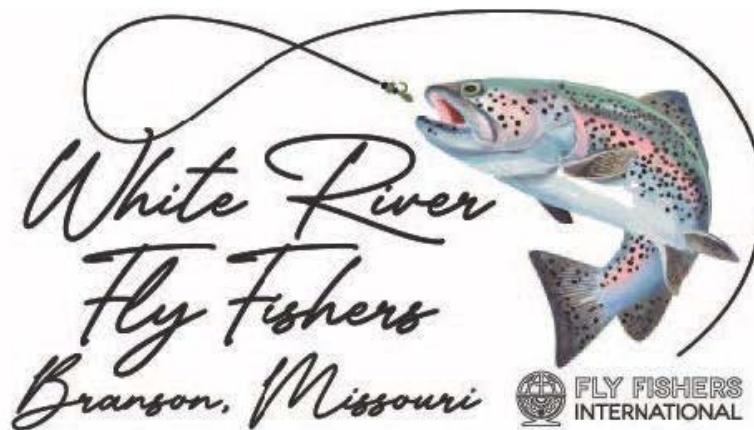
Caught some bone fish & I think yellow perch while fishing in ocean off Kauai.

David has a beautiful picture of a yellow perch; however the picture was in file format, so I couldn't get it into the Publisher software application. My apologies to David.

SAVE THE DATE

WRFF EXPO
OCTOBER 10-11/2025

FLY TIERS
VENDORS
FLY TYING CONTEST
DEMONSTRATIONS
SILENT AUCTIONS
RAFFLES
GOOD FOOD
GREAT FELLOWSHIP



White River Fly Fishers Exposition 2025

When: October 10-11/2025

Where: Branson-Hollister Lion's Club

1015 East Hwy 76, Branson, Missouri 65616

Time: 3:00 PM Thursday 10/09/2025 for Vendor set up. 9-5 Friday 9-4 Saturday

All tiers welcome! However space may be limited so sign up soon!

Vendor tables @ \$50.00 ea. Or donation for raffle at equal or greater value.

There will be a fly box swap!

For those wishing to help us continue to host an annual event, the donation of a

“box” of flies or similarly related item would be greatly appreciated but is

Strictly voluntary!

Vendor table contacts: Howard Hawkins – pdgpcc@gmail.com

Matthew Peet – ozarkboy06@yahoo.com

Tiers sign up contact: Dennis Stead – dmstead@aol.com

Schedule of Events:

October 8, 2025,: Executive Committee Meeting Noon at the Village Inn 2036S. Glenstone Avenue

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

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

November—no fly tying due to Thanksgiving Day

December 4, 2025: Annual Christmas Dinner at Golden Corral

January 2, 2026—**No Meeting—New Year's Day**

January 22, 2026: Fly Tying Library Center, Auditorium 5:30PM—9:00PM

February 5, 2026: Monthly Meeting Library Center, Community Room B 5:30PM—9:00PM

February 26, 2026: Fly Tying Library Center, Community Room B 5:30PM—9:00PM

March 5, 2026: Monthly Meeting Library Center, Community Room B 5:30PM—9:00PM

March 26, 2026: Fly Tying Library Center, Community Room B 5:30PM-9:00PM

April 2, 2026: Monthly Meeting Library Center, Community Room B 5:30PM-9:00PM

April 23, 2026: Fly Tying Library Center, Community Room B 5:30PM-9:00PM

May 7, 2026: Monthly Meeting Library Center, Community Room B 5:30PM-9:00PM

May 28, 2025: No Fly Tying due this being the week of Memorial Day

June 4, 2026: Monthly Meeting Library Center Community Room B 5:30PM—9:00PM

June 25, 2026: Fly Tying Library Center, Community Room B 5:30PM—9:00PM

July 2, 20256 Monthly Meeting Library Center Community Room B 5:30PM—9:00PM

July 23, 2026: Fly Tying Library Center, Community Room B 5:30PM—9:00PM

August 6, 2026: Monthly Meeting Library Center Community Room B 5:30PM—9:00PM

August 27, 2026: Fly Tying Library Center, Community Room B 5:30PM—9:00PM

September 3, 2026: Monthly Meeting Library Center Community Room B 5:30PM—9:00PM

September 24, 2026: Fly Tying Library Center Community Room B 5:30PM—9:00PM



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

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