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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 2026

Volume 20 No.10

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Calendar of Events for October, 2026

The October Meeting will be in Branson

**October 1 *Tour of Shepherd of the Hills Hatchery in
Branson, 3:30 pm, let's carpool.***

***After the tour, we will have a picnic at the Shepherd of the Hills
pavilion.***

***Club will furnish hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments, and buns.
Bring something to share and maybe a lawn chair.***

Chapter Business: Join the Missouri Trout Fishing Association for a visit to the Shepherd of the Hills Fish Hatchery & Conservation Education Center on October 1, 2026, at 3:30 p.m. The visit includes an 8-minute video, aquarium talk, and fish feeding.

Details: October 1, 2026 | 3:30 p.m. | Shepherd of the Hills Conservation Education Center

Group: Missouri Trout Fishing Association | Estimated attendance: 15 adults

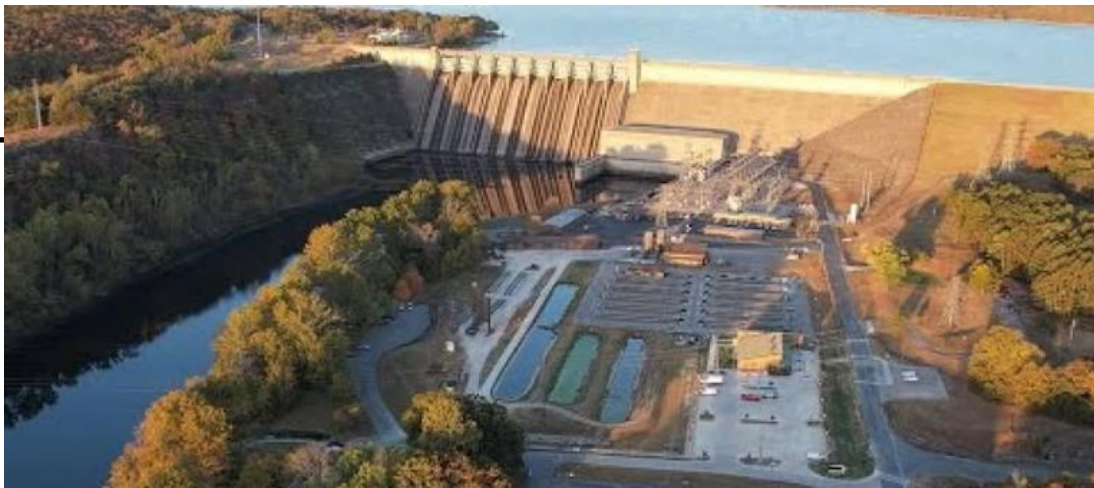
Contact: Mr. Kim Schultz | kim_schultz@sbcglobal.net | [417-860-0864](tel:417-860-0864)

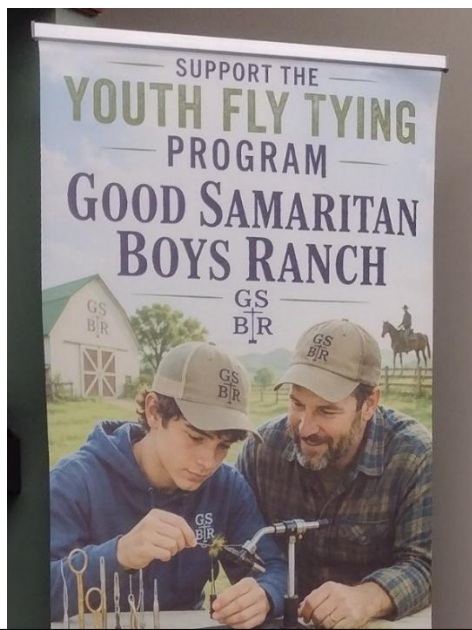
Quick Reminders:

- 1) Please arrive 5–10 minutes early and dress for the weather.***
- 2) The public may not enter the hatchery building due to biohazard protocols.***
- 3) Buses should park in the designated bus lot; drop-offs are allowed in the visitor lot for participants with mobility needs.***
- 4) Picnic facilities and a nearby hiking trail are available for groups that would like to extend their visit.***

Link to the Hatchery 8-minute video:

[Shepherd of the Hills Fish Hatchery Education Video - YouTube](#)





The September Program:
Chris Diggons spoke about the work that the Tri-Lakes FF club does with the Boys Ranch and then drew a parallel to the purpose of the Tri-Lakes Expo. The presentation was titled "Passing It On".

Fishing Pictures:



Rod Pennington fishing in Alaska



Fishing Reports:

Rick Headlee: went to Roaring River State Park on Friday, September 4th. The water was very clear and perhaps just a tad low. I fished from 07:30 until I baked to a crisp, calling a halt at noon. I caught 10 trout and had to work for every one of them. Most were caught on a white 1/100th ounce thread jig about 3' below an indicator. Very few people were there, perhaps due to the weather.

Rick Headlee

Fishing Reports:

Kim Schultz : Sept 11, 2026, Stockton Lake 863.3ft river 18cfs 1.5ft

Lake level, flow, and recent drawdown made the Little Sac arm a tough but worthwhile September white bass check. Stockton Lake held plenty of water after abundant July rains, but August and early September brought classic Ozark summer heat, with highs in the mid to upper nineties and very little rain. Since late July and early August, the lake has dropped seven feet. After returning from another trip to Michigan, I found most days too hot to paddle and search for white bass. When a mid-September break in the heat arrived, I loaded the kayak, fished below the islands, and observed plenty of fish movement but no white bass busting the surface that evening. I caught one white bass and one line bass. Summer kayak fishing has been tough, but the key result is intact: I remain on track to catch at least one white bass in every month of 2026.

Kim Schultz



Taylor Bridge Sept 2026 Lake Level 863 ft



A look down stream, Little Sac from Taylor bridge

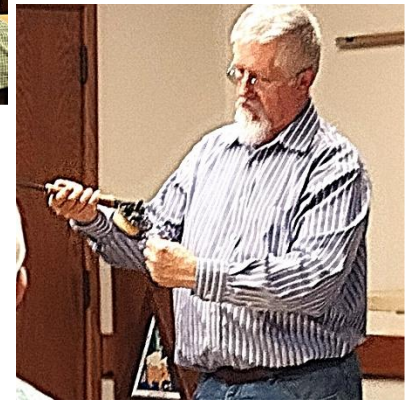
Cecil Woodman:

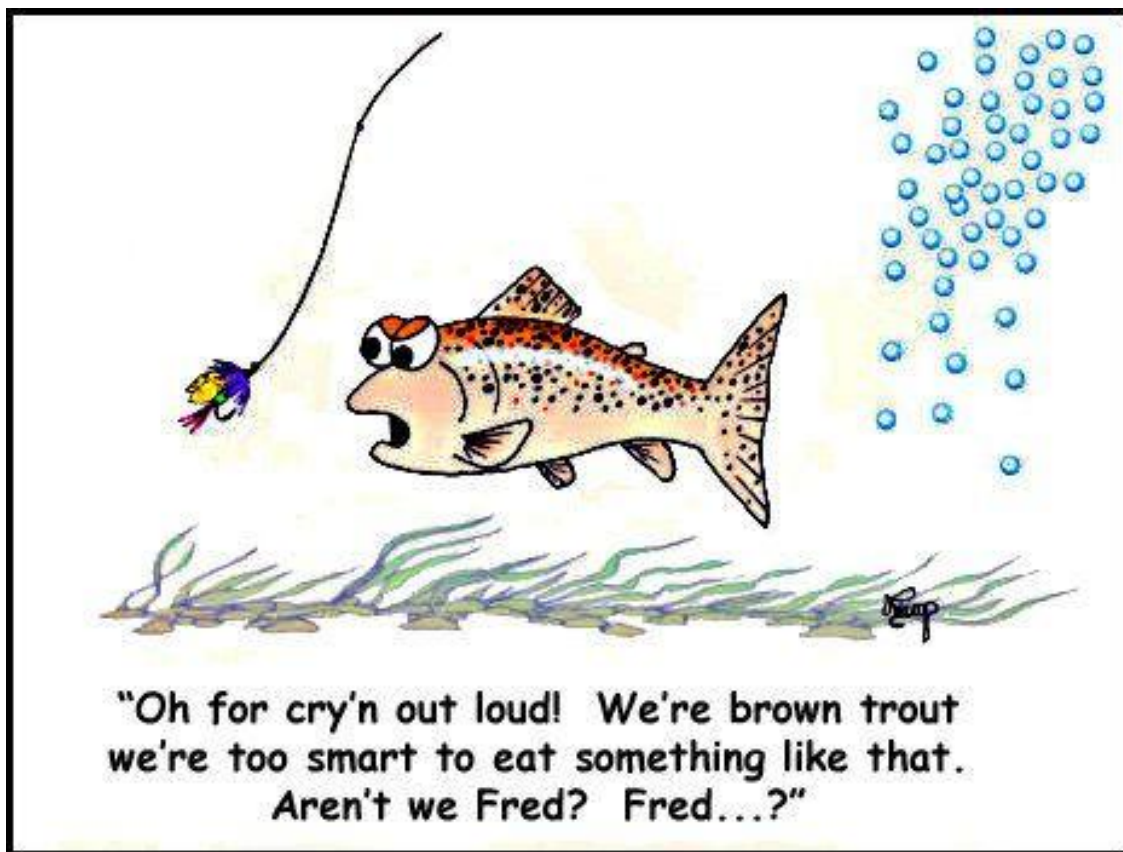
Me and my boys at Bennett Spring.

Had a good day in the rain lots of fish. *Woody*



September 2226 Beginning Fly fishing Class





The Knot Hole:

Tie your fly onto a using a loop knot to give your fly more action.

Video: [How to Use a Perfection Loop to Tie On a Fly - Orvis News](#) *David Ransin*

Another good knot for that purpose is the Video: [Non Slip Loop Knot](#)

Wish I'd said that:

"Fish come in three sizes: small, medium, and the one that got away!"

– Unknown

Video of the Month: [How to Get Your Fly Out of a Tree](#)

Schedule of Events:

October 1, 2026: tour of the Shepherd of the Hills Hatchery starts at 3:30pm
a picnic afterward (about 5pm)

October 22, 2026: Fly Tying Library Center Community Room B 6 pm—9 pm

November 5, 2026: Monthly Meeting Library Center Anne Busch room 6pm—9 pm

November 22, 2026: Fly Tying Cancelled due to Thanksgiving

December 3, 2026: Annual Meeting and Christmas Party

January 7, 2027 Library Center Auditorium on Thursday, January 7, 6pm- 9pm

January 22, 2027: Fly Tying Library Center Community Room B 6 pm—9 pm

February 4, 2027 Library Center Annie Bush Community Room on Thursday, January 7,
6pm- 9pm

February 25, 2027: Fly Tying Library Center Community Room B 6 pm—9 pm

March 4, 2027: Monthly Meeting Library Center Community Room B 6pm—9 pm

Other Local Fish Related Events:

White River Fly Fishers Expo on July 24 - 25, at the Lions Club in Branson, MO. ronleggins@gmail.com

the park store. All rules and regulations apply

State Trout Parks: Last Day of the Season (catch & keep), October 31 @ 7:30 am - 6:30 pm

Fly Rod Building Class put on by Mud Hole, November 13 - 15 at the Hilton Garden Inn. Cost is \$249 and you walk away with a finished rod plus all the tools you used to build it. You must select whether you want to build a 3, 5, or 8 weight rod. The contact to sign up is Brad Bauer, a member of SMFF, and his phone number is 417-234-1034. His email is bbauer4sons@gmail.com. Space is limited and so if you are interested inquire early.

Fly Tying Gala, presented by Frontline Fly Fishing, serving Veterans, First Responders, and the Fly Fishing Community, Blue Springs, MO. Feb 27, 2027 Cdiggons@trilakesflyfishers.com

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:

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Water levels:

Roaring River water level: [Roaring River near Roaring River State Park](#)

Taneycomo water level: [Lake Taneycomo at Ozark Beach Dam, MO - USGS Water Data for the Nation](#)

Bennett Spring water level: [National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service](#)

SWPA Generation Schedules

<https://www.energy.gov/swpa/generation-schedules>