



Cross Currents

February, 2002

M i d - M i s s o u r i C h a p t e r , T r o u t U n l i m i t e d

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In Front of Every Man is a Good Woman!

More than being honored to follow Tammy Atkins...I'm scared. But why should I be scared? She wasn't. She was only the first female president of what is a gangly group with the other chromosome. She pursued the job with unparalleled zeal and dedication and got results, maybe that's what scares me.

We all owe her a huge debt of gratitude, our chapter is stronger and we all enjoyed her leadership and style. Thank YOU, Tammy!

Banquet

Mark your new calendar for Friday, February 8, 5:30 at the Knights of Columbus. Bring money and credit cards. Tickets are \$30 or a table of eight for only \$200. Tickets are available at Clearwater Fly Shop, for other locations contact Jon Deal at 814-6351. The Knights of Columbus is on Stadium north of I-70, just past the entrance to the golf course, be there early and enjoy.

Others

Many people have worked hard to make the chapter experience nice for all of us. None have worked as hard or shown as much attention to

detail as Denis Hancock. He has been editor of our newsletter for the last four and a half years. He has been the one that works on a deadline and puts his efforts out there for all to see monthly. Thank you, Denis.

There are too many others we owe a round of applause to for their involvement. YOU can join this esteemed group by volunteering or surrendering when asked to help. Thank you in advance.

If you have any ideas or suggestions please let me know, email at MOtrout@aol.com.

- Jeff B.Witten

MMTU CALENDAR

All regular meetings are held at the Missouri Department of Conservation's Fisheries Research Facility located at Stadium and College at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

February 5, 2002, 7:30 p.m. - Rob Souden and Ken Scott will present a slide presentation of the exciting fly fishing trip they took last August to Idaho.

February 8, 2002, 5:30 p.m. - Annual banquet at the Knights of Columbus, 5:30 p.m. This year's banquet will feature some VERY nice items for both the silent and verbal auctions: bamboo and graphite fly rods, reels, lines, art, and a "really interesting" surprise item. Come help us help trout, and have a great time doing it!



MASTER FLY TYERS FEATURED AT JANUARY MEETING

Our January meeting was as fun as it was informative. Three of our chapter's highly accomplished fly tyers demonstrated their techniques for tying some of their most effective flies.

Bill Lamberson (above) demonstrated the Sparrow. The pattern he uses calls for: a heavy wire hook 2-3 XL in size 6 - 10; pheasant back or the fluff (marabou) from pheasant rump feathers for the tail; a dubbed body in an olive brown color; an gold oval tinsel rib; a pheasant rump feather hackle tied at the shoulder, the fibers extending to the end of the tail; a filoplume head from the feathers at the base of the pheasant rump feathers. Bill weights the fly with 10 or so wraps of .030 wire.

As you can see from the fly tying vise he's using in the accompanying photo, Bill hasn't jumped on the "true rotary" bandwagon. I asked him if he'd had the chance to try one yet.

"I haven't tied much with a true rotary. Dave Megahan has a Dyna-King that I have tried and I was tying with a Renzetti at Clearwater on Saturday, but that has been it. I use a Regal. I like them. I have worn one out (they replaced it) and I have a second one. They serve my purposes very well."

Curt Morgret then demonstrated how he ties his favorite variation of the Madam X. As can be expected whenever Curt takes center stage, the tone of the meeting quickly took a humorous turn! One thing for certain, though. The Madam X is an excellent fly and Curt is an expert at tying them.

Chapter members were then treated to something very few people ever are privileged enough to see. The tying of a truly outstanding fly being demonstrated by its creator. The fly was Mike's Mohair Leech and the tyer was, of course, none other than our very own Mike Kruse.

The Mike's Mohair Leech streamer fly has become somewhat of an Ozark fly fishing sensation in recent years. They really work, and the fish that hit them tend to be the largest ones in the stream. Mike hasn't let his near-legendary status go to his head, however. Far from it! Following Curt's lead, his tying demonstration was informative and somewhat comical at times. Who says fly tying is boring? Not when Mid-Missouri Trout Unlimited gets together, it's not!

If you missed our last meeting, be sure to make it a point to join us at our next meeting Tuesday, February 5th. We hope you'll be there.



NEW TROUT UNLIMITED CHAPTER FORMED IN SOUTHEAST MISSOURI

Sixteen area anglers came out to the Trout Unlimited Chapter Organization meeting Jan. 31 at the Missouri Department of Conservation Southeast District Headquarters with the goal of forming a viable chapter in Southeast Missouri.

The interim name "Cape Area Trout Unlimited" was replaced by an all inclusive name "SEMO Trout Unlimited."

Michael Wells of Cape Girardeau, chapter organizer, was elected as the group's first president. Tom Draper of Jackson was elected Vice-President, John Rigdon of Cape Girardeau was elected Treasurer, and Karl Larson of Cape Girardeau was elected Secretary.

Board members for the group were also elected. The board members were from various communities

The above article is on the World Wide Web at <http://thebuzz.semissourian.com/112/> .

Prior to the formation of the SEMO chapter, Mid-Missouri and Branson were the only two Trout Unlimited chapters in Missouri. (The fate of the Meramec Basin Chapter in St. Louis reorganizing soon is still questionable, with it being inactive for over a year.) A chapter on the east side of the state in Cape Girardeau is a big plus for keeping a statewide presence for Trout Unlimited in Missouri.

Congratulations to all involved! Ozark Council chairman John Wenzlick deserves a big "Thank You!" from all of us for all the work he does helping to make successes like this happen.

AMERICAN NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE MUSEUM NOW OPEN

Looking for a place to take your kids or grandkids? A place that celebrates our country's fishing and hunting heritage? A place to help educate them about the importance of conserving our natural resources? There's good news for you - the new \$52 million, 92,000 square-foot American National Fish and Wildlife Museum is now open next door to the Bass Pro Outdoor World in Springfield.

The museum features more than 150 species of live animals, and is designed to motivate personal involvement in the conservation of outdoor resources.

Of particular interest is the chilled upland stream tank. The upland stream tank provides a home to various species of fish, with native fauna displayed along the stream's banks. Interpretative panels describe the physical characteristics of upland streams, with emphasis on the spring-fed streams of the Ozarks and the life cycles of rainbow and brown trout.

For more information about the American National Fish and Wildlife Museum, you can visit their Web site at www.wondersofwildlife.org.

Remember - the 2002
Annual Conservation
Banquet will be held
February 8th

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Cross Currents, the Mid-Missouri Chapter of Trout Unlimited newsletter, is published monthly except for July, and has a circulation of approximately 300.

Regular chapter meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month except for July. The meeting place is usually the Missouri Department of Conservation Fisheries Research Facility at Stadium and College in Columbia. See the newsletter for any changes.

Internet:
www.agron.missouri.edu/flyfishing/mmtu.html
