



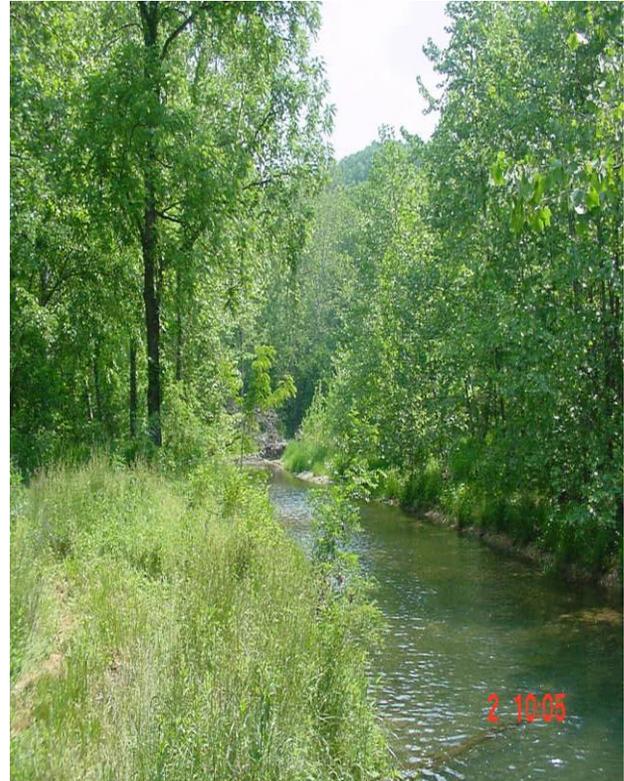
Cross Currents

September 2007

Contemplations from Curt

I clipped a bell onto Penny's collar the other day. Penny is a 4-month old Brittany that came to live at our house a couple of months ago. She reacted with a moment of curiosity and then ran terrified from the noise that wouldn't go away. She ran from the kitchen through the family room, down the hall, up the stairs, into our bedroom and under the bed. She peed the whole way.

If a person wanted to reflect deeply on the event to search out lessons on learning, life, and other self-development issues, I bet you could find three or four things to meditate on. But if you are the one carrying around the paper towels and a spray bottle with something to kill the smell, the lessons are delayed at best. Maybe just the practice of self restraint by not cussing in front of the kids is deep enough. Maybe that's enough to reward yourself just a little. Like maybe a fishing trip. . . (continued on page 2)



Mill Creek Bohigian Conservation Area

Upcoming meetings:

September 4 Nick Girondo will be describing habitat improvement activities on Mill Creek and recruiting for a work day on Saturday, September 15 (see page 2) Skyhooks to be installed on the Bohigian Conservation area were described in the June newsletter <http://www.midmotu.org/newsletters.htm>.

The meeting will be held at the Missouri Department of Conservation, Resource Science Center, Columbia. The Resource Science Center is on the east side of College Avenue, just north of Stadium Blvd. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.

October 2: Dan Bollow, Fishing New Zealand

You are invited to a very special ceremony to thank the donors who made possible the acquisition of a blue ribbon trout fishery on Mill Creek and the Bohigian Conservation Area.

Friday, September 21, 2007 at 10:30 a.m.

Sponsored by:
Missouri Department of Conservation
Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation
Mid-Missouri Trout Unlimited

Please RSVP by September 12
800-227-1488

Fly Flingers Weekend

Eleven Point River Canoe Rental is hosting Fly Flingers Weekend on October 20-21. Eleven Point River Canoe Rental makes a donation of whatever money they raise during the activities of the weekend to Mid-Missouri TU. The details are listed at www.11pointcanoe.com. Brian Sloss is very generous to the Chapter so please participate if you can. The event has grown each year with about 15 participants last year.

Brian reports that fishing is very good in the Eleven Point right now so it might be worth a trip between now and Fly Flingers Weekend.

The President continues:

I've made peace with the Meramec River. The bitter, ugly dispute began a few years ago on a Thanksgiving Day trip I took by myself (there is a whole separate story about that – it's still too risky to discuss). The Meramec not only blanked me, but I swear it laughed out loud. The dispute continued over the years with the river handing me some pretty good beatings. Then, not long ago, the river gave in a little. Slowly, here and there, a couple of nice fish, some on dry flies and some in unexpected places. Success still isn't guaranteed but a certain consistency exists – a peaceful friendly relationship of give and take.

Not long after the dog bell incident I fished a long, pellucid run, sight fishing nymphs to feeding fish. There was a balance between challenge and success. The sky was blue and there was a lot of clear moving water.

Pretty soon it will be fall and Penny will learn to point birds. I know that after she's run through coveys, chased rabbits and eaten birds instead of retrieving them I can always rely on the Meramec. - Curt

August Meeting

Dr. Bob Sites, Professor of Entomology, University of Missouri, described results of the Little Piney insect sampling project. The complete report can be read at: <http://www.midmotu.org/articles.htm>

Mill Creek Habitat Improvement Work Day Saturday, September 15th

From Nick Girondo:

Contributors to the Coldwater Fund have expressed a strong interest in volunteering time to help the trout fishery on Mill Creek. Many groups have posted an announcement about the trout habitat project starting this year on Mill Creek within the Bohigian Conservation Area in their respective newsletters. So now comes the time to help with that project. On Saturday, September 15th I will be at the Bohigian CA with materials and tools to build 15 Skyhooks to be placed in Mill Creek. We will be meeting and working in the pasture on the very south end of the property. This will be the bulk of manual labor needed for this year's portion of the project. Volunteers need to be on site no later than 10:30 a.m., I'll be there much earlier. Please wear pants and leather shoes and please bring leather gloves, safety glasses and a hat if possible. Don't forget your lunch, sunscreen, bug spray, water and maybe even a flyrod for when we are finished. If all goes well I expect this to take no longer than 6 hours, hopefully much shorter. I'll explain plans for this area that day.

[We will circulate a sign-up sheet at the September MMTU meeting. If you want to participate but can't make it to the meeting, please contact Nick directly on or before September 7. His contact information is listed below. Also, if you have questions, contact Nick.]

Directions: Taking Hwy 44 west from Rolla Area get off at Doolittle and go south on Hwy T thru Newburg, make right on Hwy P after crossing over Little Piney, make a left off of Hwy P at gravel road with Forest Service Picnic Area sign follow past picnic area then past house on left til gate with old barn on left and pull in until you see cars.

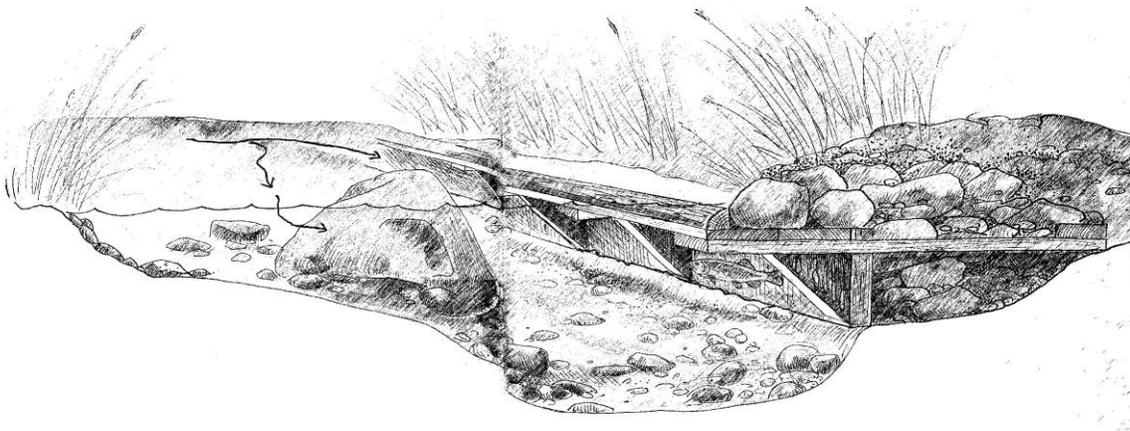
Taking Hwy 44 east from Fort Wood area get off at Hwy J exit and go south on Hwy J one mile and make left on Hwy P until you see Hwy AA. Turn right on Hwy AA to bottom of hill, turn left on Mill Creek Road (1st county road on left) and immediate right in Gate drive until you see cars. If you make

it to a small white church on Hwy AA you've gone too far.

Thanks,
Nick

P.S. Fishing stories are welcome that day.

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A drawing of an installed skyhook

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***Cross Currents**, the Mid-Missouri Chapter of Trout Unlimited newsletter, has a circulation of approximately 300. Regular chapter meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month, except for July. The meeting place is the Missouri Department of Conservation, Resource Science Center at Stadium Blvd. and College Ave. in Columbia, Missouri. Meeting time is 7:00 p.m.*

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