



Cross Currents

October 2007

Comments from Curt

There's a space in the evening sky between the remaining glow of the sunset in the west and the dark night in the east that holds a deep violet color. It's more readily seen when I'm out west due to the lack of humidity and higher altitude but it could just be that when I'm out west the day is closing out and peaceful. At home, it seems the day doesn't wind down until everyone is in bed and there isn't a lot of sky gazing going on before that.

Anyway, this fragment of sky seems to hold the meaning of tranquility. Pausing for awhile and watching the stars reveal themselves seems to extrude the tension out of my body and it's even better if the air is cold enough to fog my breath and make my ears hurt a bit. During this ephemeral part of the day it is almost impossible to think about future worries or remain angry at whatever happened in the near past. Breathing is easier and nothing else exists. (continued pg 2)



Norm Crisp and Curt Morgret at the Mill Creek work day

Kids Trout Outing is Sunday afternoon, November 4 from 12:30 – 3:00. Please tie barbless streamers, glo-balls, and other flies youth will have success with and drop them off Clearwater Outfitters by Nov 3. We need volunteers to help rig up beginning at noon and to assist kids in catching and release trout unharmed. Michael Riley Coordinator rileym@missouri.edu 882-6475 wk 817-0631 hm

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.

Upcoming meeting

October 2: Dan Bollow, Fishing New Zealand. Dan has retired and spent 7 of the last 8 U.S. winters fly fishing New Zealand trout on the mid-Mataura River near his present home in Southland. Don't miss Dan's presentation.

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.

Officer Nominations

Two years have rolled by and it is time once again to choose new leadership for MMTU. The list of offices and the current officers and board members are:

President	Curt Morgret
Past President	Jon Deal
Vice-president	Bryan Chilcutt
Secretary	Lynn Kleopfer
Treasurer	Michael Riley
Membership Web Editor	Jim Washabaugh
Resources	Jim Auckley
Member-at-large	Scott Rubinstein
Banquet	John Meyer Lynn Kleopfer
Program	Mike Kruse
Conservancy	Richard Mendenhall
Newsletter Editor	Bill Lamberson

We are happy to have volunteers for these offices. If you wish to get more involved and serve as an officer or board member, contact Curt Morgret or Bill Lamberson. Our contact information is on the cover.

The President continues:

That moment is so similar to my time spent fishing it seems as if there were subconscious rhizomes that connected them; only when they grew above the surface they looked different. They both bring life to that moment in time and like a tiny gemstone hidden in pile of gravel, you can pass both of them by without notice; being caught up in the larger concerns of existence such as money, jobs and all of the little things “that

have to be done or the world will fall apart” and miss the tranquility that it offers.

Many parts of life are wonderful and many are best enjoyed with people around you. This particular moment of absorbing the evening sky I reserve only for myself. Although it is never truly reserved but more or less happens unexpectedly as the day gapes open with nothing to fill it but a tiny bit of serenity. The opportunity might come from something as ordinary as taking the dog out for a last call to nature before turning in. Or remembering to take the garbage out. Or sitting in front of your tent, somewhere in the Rockies after a day of catching little alpine trout on dry flies. – Curt Morgret

Mill Creek Work Day

Nick Girondo led a large crew of volunteers in building “skyhooks”, structures to provide in-stream overhead cover for trout in Mill Creek (see <http://www.midmotu.org/newsletters.htm> for a description). The crew of nearly 50 volunteers for fishing clubs and Trout Unlimited Chapters from around the state assembled 13 structures. This was estimated to save about eight man-days of labor from MDC personnel. The group also picked up trash from the Bohigian Conservation Area, and assisted Mark Van Patton with sampling invertebrates from Mill Creek.



Michael Riley with a complete skyhook



The crew puts finishing touches on a skyhook

Trout in Missouri works. That's not Trout Unlimited – its Trout in Missouri. On Friday, September 21, forty-one people showed up at Dr. Bohigian's farm on Mill Creek to celebrate with John Hoskins, Director of MDC, and several other folks and government agencies, the successful completion of Missouri Department of Conservation's acquisition of the farm and 1 ½ miles of Mill Creek. The acquisition was enhanced and, in a lot of ways, prioritized due to the donation of \$100,000 of private money through the Coldwater Fund of the Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation.

The Coldwater Fund, of course, is not an organization by itself and is barely recognizable as an entity. It's a funnel for money (translated a lot of times as "clout") and what it really represents are all the organizations and people who are interested in coldwater conservation efforts in Missouri. The donation of money for the Bohigian Conservation Area came from the Ozark Council of Trout Unlimited, Mid Missouri Trout Unlimited, Heart of America Fly Fishers and Ozark Fly Fishers and several individuals. The people in those organizations are friends, neighbors and folks with a common vision that goes beyond the organizations they belong to. I like to call it Trout in Missouri.

And if you had been in the same little field on Mill Creek the prior Saturday, you would have seen between forty and fifty people working to build skyhooks for habitat improvement; same folks that gave money. They drove from St. Louis, Kansas City, Columbia and some more local towns, too.

We need our national organizations. They give us structure, resources and a common name to rally around. But when it comes to Missouri coldwater, we all look the same.

- Curt Morgret



Marty King is appropriately dressed for the intellectual discussions

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Mid-Missouri TU Chapter Officers for 2006 - 2007

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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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