



Cross Currents

December 2007

Curt's Last Words

December 4, 2012.

St. Somewhere in the Caribbean Sea.

I know you haven't heard from me for some time now and I guess most of the excitement has died down along with the rumors and speculation. I'm sure there are a few folks that still have hard feelings but I just wanted to take a stab at explaining myself now that the statute of limitations has expired on pretty much everything that happened.

It all started the Saturday after Thanksgiving back in '07. My wife got the mail that morning and opened the letter from our investment advisor. It was then she found out I had invested our entire retirement savings in a collection of classic fiberglass fly rods. In hindsight, I have to admit that was a bad idea, although I still think we could have recovered some of the money if they hadn't been piled on the driveway and burned the following day.

The next week was pretty rocky and I ended up sleeping in my truck parked down at Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area for several nights. Mike stopped by most mornings to wake me on his way out to duck hunt and, if I was lucky, he would share one of his extra donuts. During those long, cold nights I developed a plan to extricate both my family and myself from the mess. Unfortunately, the plan contained a zero sum component and others would have to suffer in the process.

(continued pg 2)

Upcoming Meetings

January 8: (Note the change in date and location) – **Spencer Turner**, retired MDC biologist, columnist, outdoor writer, will report on Wild Trout IX, *Sustaining Wild Trout in a Changing World*. This conference was held in West Yellowstone in October. **The meeting will be held at D'Rose**, located at the intersection of Forum and Nifong. The board will meet at 5:30, the regular meeting begins at 7:00.

2008/2009 Officers

At the November meeting the following members were elected MMTU officers for 2008/2009:

President – Dean Rapp
Vice President – Lynn Kloepfer
Treasurer – Michael Riley
Secretary – Jon Deal
Program – Mike Kruse
Newsletter – Lamberson/Morgret

Some board positions are still open. If you are interested, contact Curt.

December Chapter Dinner

The annual chapter dinner will be December 4 at **Grill One 5**. Cocktails will begin at 6:00 with dinner at 7:00. Grill One 5 is at 15 South 6th in the District. Please join us for this evening of informal socializing. RSVP to Curt at CMorgret@greatsouthernbank.com or 446-4776 would be appreciated.

Curt continues:

I'm sure you'll recall waking up the morning after the Christmas dinner at Grill One -5 to hear the news of my death resulting from a tragic fly tying accident involving a motorized rotary vise (obtained at Clearwater Outfitters with a bad check – sorry Scott), seventeen skeins of mohair yarn and an alcohol burner. The body was so badly burned the coroner was unable to make a positive verification and the life insurance money Paula collected should have been enough to soothe her for awhile.

Most folks likely noticed the disappearance of the Mid Mo TU pension fund a few days after that. The money secured a ride out of the country in a small Cessna to an obscure island in the Caribbean. I used the remaining funds to purchase a thirty-foot Swan, which is sufficient to keep me in shelter and provide a quiet way of moving about the islands.

My life isn't horrible, though I miss my family. I was able to escape the country with an eight-weight rod and a reel. Other than that, I don't need much more than a couple pair of khaki shorts and a tee shirt or two. I make a little cash now and again smuggling mohair yarn into the country after the consumer protection agency outlawed it 4 ½ years ago due to a death from a terrible conflagration. I've developed a taste for fresh-caught seafood, ship's biscuits and cheap rum and I have to admit any retirement wouldn't have been nearly as exciting but perhaps a bit more comfortable.

For security purposes I probably shouldn't tell you where I am. I think Paula is still pretty upset judging from the occasional, anonymous assassination attempts. I spread tacks on the deck at night and that takes care of most of intruders. There isn't any money left to give back to you guys, but I have hopes of finding an old Spanish wreck with enough treasure to make amends. Meanwhile, it's

bad coffee, cheap sunglasses and the rare letter from my accountant, who is now laid up somewhere in Uruguay. Adios.

(This may not be the last we hear from Curt. Although it is the last month in his term as chapter president, he has agreed to assist with the newsletter by making contributions, as regular as possible considering his situation, and likely on saltwater rather than coldwater fishing.)

Kids Trout Outing



Photo courtesy of Michael Riley

Sunday, November 4, was a perfect afternoon for **Kids Trout Outing**. Michael Riley once again organized a great event that brought out many kids to try their hands at catching Bethel Park trout, as well as many MMTU volunteers to assist. Our thanks to the volunteers that gave their time to help, to those that tied flies, and to Clearwater Outfitters for providing fly boxes.

Thanks!

Our thanks to Brian Sloss and Ryan Griffin, owners of **Eleven Point Canoe Rental**, for their donation of \$184 to the chapter resulting from the 2007 Fly Flingers Weekend. Much appreciated Brian and Ryan!!

Newsletters: I have signed on for another two years as the editor of the monthly MMTU Cross Currents, as well and the Ozark Council's annual Ozark Currents. I hope you enjoy reading these as much as I enjoy editing. If you have suggestions or comments, or want to contribute, please send me a note, my email address is on the cover.

Last month I noted the upcoming bird and fly tying seasons. Both are off to a good start for me, quail numbers seem good, and I have made a good start on a box of soft-hackles for the banquet, as well as started on a pair of bamboo rods that will be auctioned or traded for auction items for the banquet.

I am writing this on Thanksgiving evening. I have enjoyed a day of fellowship with my family in Nebraska. They have all now gone their separate ways and I have retired to a quiet evening in a rather secluded cabin kept up by one of my brothers. It is a beautiful clear Nebraska night, the moon is nearly full and shining brightly, and reflecting off the remnants of yesterday's snow across the meadow in front of the cabin. Two owls are keeping me company with their who-whoing. It would be good if the fire perked up a bit, as it is rather chilly, and the thermometer on the porch reads -6 (but I'm confident it is several degrees pessimistic). Never-the-less it is going to be a cold night. Tomorrow I'll return to Columbia to send this to the printer and, depending on little I sleep tonight, perhaps find time for a couple of hours of late afternoon quail hunting.

This space is nearly filled, so it's time to save this newsletter, enjoy some of the Scotch I see high on the pantry shelf, and see what I can find for a book to read.

Happy Holidays to you and yours.

Bill Lamberson

November Meeting – John Holste experienced what most of us only dream about, living in a cabin on Kodiak Island, Alaska, for ten weeks last summer. John described wonderful fishing for salmon, steelhead, halibut and resident trout. The luxurious accommodations at bargain prices are not to be missed! John also provided a variety of smoked salmon for us to sample after his presentation. Thanks John.



One of John's summer neighbors.

2008 Conservation Banquet.

The annual MMTU conservation banquet will be held at Stony Creek Inn on February 22. Mark your calendars to hold this important event. Mike Kruse is Chairing the banquet committee. Contact Mike if you are interested in helping with the banquet. This has been an active year for the chapter, we have: sponsored scholarships for women to attend a Casting for Recovery Retreat in Missouri, worked with helping kids learn to fish at Kids Trout Outing, donated to conservation efforts on the Big Hole in Montana, made a major contribution to the purchase of the Bohigian Tract (now the Bohigian Conservation Area), assisted with stream improvement projects on the Bohigian Conservation Area on Mill Creek, and sponsored the Little Piney Insect Survey. All these activities mean that our reserves are depleted, so please come to the banquet and bring your friends.

Mid-Missouri Trout Unlimited
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Mid-Missouri TU Chapter Officers for 2006 - 2007

President	Curt Morgret	573-446-4776
Past President	Jon Deal	573-442-0931
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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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