



# Cross Currents

April 2009

## ***2009 Conservation Banquet***

The annual MMTU conservation banquet was a great success. Gary Eaton was recognized as the MMTU “most valuable player” with the Nello Donati award. George Bohagian received the Conservationist of the Year for his contributions to cold water conservation in Missouri. The Chapter raised nearly \$8000 at this year’s banquet. Stoney Creek Inn was once again a wonderful venue. Stuart Head was a great auctioneer. We wish to thank all the generous donors including: Bass-Pro Shops, Lonnie Thiel, John and Linda Wenzlick, Tom Hargrove Fly Shop, Brian Sloss – Eleven Point Canoe, Ken Neubecker, Hardy North America, Margie Meyer, and Scott and Amy Penmann. Mike Kruse and Gary Eaton deserve recognition for their tireless efforts as banquet chair and MC, respectively. Special thanks to Redwood Creek Wines for providing wine for the banquet. Visit them at:

<http://www.redwoodcreek.com>

## **CFM names Mike Kruse Water Conservationist of 2008**

Mike has worked for the Conservation Department for 22 years. He was instrumental in developing and implementing the Missouri trout management plan. In addition to his role in Missouri, he has contributed to a number of conservation projects undertaken by Trout Unlimited including chairing TU’s national Embrace-A-Stream Program. Congratulations Mike!

## **April 7 Meeting – Richard Mayden Conchos Trout in Mexico**

Professor Richard Mayden from the Department of Biology at St. Louis University will describe work to characterize and conserve the recently discovered Mexican Conchos Trout (photo below). This should be a *very* interesting presentation, so be sure to put it on your calendar. Professor Mayden will also be presenting a seminar at the University of Missouri on April 7.



The April 7 meeting will be held 7 pm at D Rowe’s, located off Forum, just north of the intersection with Nifong.

## **Help – a - Trout**

A tree planting project will take place on Sunday April 19<sup>th</sup> at the Riparian Area of Mill Creek on Bohigian CA. We will be planting 6,000 seedlings throughout the Riparian zone where habitat work has been completed. All ages are welcome. Work will start at 10 am rain or shine and end as soon as all of the seedlings are in the ground; or no later than 4 pm. Please bring a hat, sunscreen, lunch, plenty of water and a positive attitude. If you have any question please contact Nick Girondo, at 573-368-2225 or [Nick.Girondo@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Nick.Girondo@mdc.mo.gov).

## More from Morgret

He sat on the bank staring off into the trees with a look that lacked everything – emotion, wonder, awareness – a vacuum of anything you might expect in a man fishing a trout stream. Hal looked at his friend, reeled in the remainder of the fly line, hooking the fly into the agate stripper and carefully pulling the leader back around the reel foot. After Hal sat down, he could feel the heat of the sun on his face and he asked the inevitable, “So what the hell’s got your goat today? You been fishing like most people mop the kitchen.” “I’ve been wiped out Hal,” he said. “The market washed away most of my retirement like a spring flood. I thought I had it made, now it’s gone . . . freaking b-----ds on Wall Street stole my life.”

Hal sat there for a minute, and then pulled out his water bottle taking a long swig of formerly iced liquid, now tepid water. He readjusted his sitting position because his waders lacked the integrity of when they were new and the damp blue jeans underneath made his bum itch.

“Remember that time we drove out to Beaver? Damn that was fun. Got a sunburn I can still feel and might come back to haunt me. The sun shined, the fish were willing and we slept like stones every night. We met that fella who writes the books and he drank beer with us in camp the next to last night there. You could take that trip ten times and it wouldn’t be like that again. ”

He dropped his head a little, “You know, Hal, talking about old fishing trips isn’t going to make it any better. The money’s gone and I don’t think it’s ever coming back. We had plans, we were going to retire early together, spend some summers out west, help the kids out, kinda just live life, you know.”

Hal didn’t seem to hear the comment and continued. “Drivin’ out we got on that long stretch of good highway and went like the wind. We made some great time, driving all night, and we had a great time talkin’ about all the extra fishing we would have from gettin’ there so early.”

“It was the wrong road, Hal. It was a mistake.”

“Yeah, all that smooth highway and good speed. We thought we had it made but not really; all that extra time never existed. As a matter of fact had to go back and start over and we bitched about it until we got to Beaver, then we started fishing and forgot everything. Ha! Never been on a trip that didn’t have some part of the plan go haywire. “Hal, this is different, this is my life. Not some fishing trip that turned out OK anyway. I’m too old to start over. I’m going to have to work the rest of my life.”

A couple of puffy clouds floated in front of the sun and air returned to cool momentarily. It was one of those late spring days you could be hot and cold at almost the same time.

“Your daddy didn’t seem to mind. And I think he smiled every day until the day they buried him up at Prairie Grove.”

Curt Morgret

## Casting Corner - by Gary Eaton

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### GOLF AS A MODEL

#### Great golfers

- 1) Take their sport seriously
- 2) Get lessons and pointers from qualified pros
- 3) Practice every aspect of their complex game
- 4) Rely on proper equipment and learn how to maximize the benefits of fine tools
- 5) Constantly refine and improve their performance with conditioning, training, & studious review
- 6) Keep having fun, even if conditions are unfavorable

- 7) Act intelligently and cease the dangerous
- 8) Take responsibility, behave ethically, adhere to the rules, and follow a code of etiquette

Expensive golf clubs offer no benefit if one never practices. Lousy, ill fitting clubs make it impossible to progress

Lessons from a casual golfer usually teach bad habits.

Hitting tee shots with a putter and using the driver in a sand trap makes no sense.

Teeing off in a lightning storm is foolish.

Golfing five times a year with no practice in between will not result in lower scores.

Driving many long balls on the range will provide no benefit to your short game.

Relationship counselors may not recommend teaching your spouse to golf.

Planning to *practice* on your round of golf will get you thrown off the course for impeding play.

Perfect practice makes perfect results. If you practice mistakes, you will achieve mediocrity.

### **Accomplished fly fishers**

- 1) Take their sport seriously
- 2) Get lessons and pointers from qualified pros
- 3) Practice every aspect of their complex sport
- 4) Rely on proper equipment and learn how to maximize the benefits of fine tools
- 5) Constantly refine and improve their performance with conditioning, training, & studious review
- 6) Keep having fun, even if conditions are unfavorable
- 7) Act intelligently and cease the dangerous
- 8) Take responsibility, behave ethically, adhere to the rules, and follow a code of etiquette

Expensive rods & reels offer no benefit without practice. Lousy, ill suited gear makes it impossible to progress

Lessons from a casual fly fisher usually teach bad habits.

Driving a fly into the wind with a 3-weight and using a 10-weight in a tiny spring creek make no sense.

Graphite rod in a lightning storm is foolish.

Angling five times a year with no practice in between will not result in better accuracy or distance.

Developing ultra-long casts in practice will provide no benefit to your accuracy, mends, presentation casts, or finesse on-the-water.

Relationship counselors may not recommend teaching your spouse to cast or fish.

Planning to *practice* on the stream will get you resented for impeding fishing.

Perfect practice makes perfect results. If you practice mistakes, you will achieve mediocrity.

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Gary Eaton is a Master Certified Casting Instructor (MCCI), and along with Jeff Trigg, CCI, conducts casting clinics for all abilities. Submit "Casting Corner" ideas to Jeff [triggfly@gmail.com](mailto:triggfly@gmail.com) or Gary [geaton@pol.net](mailto:geaton@pol.net)

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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 **D Rowe's**, located off Forum, just north the intersection with Nifong in Columbia, Missouri. Meeting time 7:00 p.m.*

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