



Mid-Missouri Trout Unlimited

<http://midmissouri.tu.org/>

Cross Currents

April 2015

NOTICE

Mid-Mo Newsletter To Go Electronic.

The monthly newsletter will transition to email using the company Constant Contact. We hope to complete the process by June. You may need to adjust your email settings to accept these emails. Please make sure your preferred email address is current at TU National. You can update your profile and email address at www.tu.org. The electronic newsletter is also available at our web site, <http://midmissouri.tu.org/>. We are aware that some members do not have computer capabilities, so a printed version will remain available by contacting Michael Riley 4625 E Raccoon Ridge Dr., Columbia, MO 65201; 573-808-4828, or rileym@missouri.edu.

FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

The monthly meetings of MMTU are held on the first Tuesday of each month, 7:00 P.M., at Jack's Gourmet Restaurant, Columbia, MO.

April 7, MMTU Monthly Meeting. Fisheries Management Biologist Nick Gironde will provide a status report on the trout waters in the Rolla area.

April 11, Little Piney Stream Team Survey, 7:30 A.M – 5:00 P.M. Meet at the AC/Hwy 63 commuter lot. We will survey the water quality of the Little Piney using macroinvertebrates, very informative for fly fishers. Bring drinks, sack lunch and rods for a little fishing. Mentee's WELCOME. Contact Michael Riley at rileym@missouri.edu or 573-808-4828 so we know you are coming.

April 13, Monday, 7:00 P.M. MMTU will discuss "How to catch trout at Bennett Spring" with

Troop 6 Boy Scouts in Kennedy Hall at Immaculate Conception School, 1208 East McCarty, Jefferson City, MO. They will fish at Bennett Spring on Saturday, April 18, primarily with spinning gear. The Troop may include potential Mentee's. If you can help the Scouts fish at Bennett Spring on April 18, please contact Michael Riley at rileym@missouri.edu or 573-808-4828.

April 20, 7:00 P.M. Fly Tying with Hallsville Boy Scouts. We need volunteers to help with a fly tying activity with Hallsville Boy Scouts Mentee's. They meet at the Hallsville United Methodist Church. Contact Michael Riley at rileym@missouri.edu or 573-808-4828 if you can help.

May 5. MMTU Monthly Meeting. MDC Fisheries Research Biologist Jeff Koppleman – subject to be announced.

May 9, Introductory Level Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Workshop. Saturday, 8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. at MU Extension, 4H Center for Youth Development, 1110 S. College Ave., Columbia, MO. Register by Wednesday, April 22.

http://www.mostreamteam.org/Documents/VWQM/Intro_Schedule.pdf

June 6 and 7. Trout Fest at Bennett Spring. The inaugural CFM Trout Fest sponsored in cooperation with DNR and MDC. The event consists of two days of free fishing including educational opportunities, vendors and entertainment. Festivities include a traditional trout derby where a large number of tagged trout will be released each day for prizes at the CFM booth for anglers who catch them. [click here](#) for the flier.

President's Corner by Scott Gerlt

MMTU is going green. Our newsletter is distributed to over 300 individuals ten times per year. It costs us almost \$1 to send each copy. As you can see, this is a significant cost of about \$3,000 per year to our chapter. To put it in perspective, this is about equivalent to 30 to 40% of our banquet net.

Switching to an email delivery system allows us to eliminate most of this cost. We can free up more resources for conservation purposes. Additionally, an electronic version takes up less space and is easier to store. For those without access to email, the printed copy can be made available. Please bear with us as we make this change.

On another note, some members have been asking about the Fly Fishing Film Tour. Unfortunately, the Rag Tag Cinema is no longer allowing outside groups to show films due to increased competition in the area. We have been searching for another venue, but have not found a suitable one at this time. We would welcome help finding a new spot.

Thank You by Bob Hook

My thanks to all for their prayers, visits and flowers following my cardiac surgery. Recovery

is going well with very little pain and a gradual increase in energy and stamina each day. Three weeks ago I could hardly walk 3 minutes at a very slow pace and now I am walking 25 minutes each day at a quicker pace. I start cardiac rehab on April 1 which will get me out of the house twice each week. God bless.

In Memory of David Welsh

It is with great sadness and disappointment that we report the passing of David Welsh. David, age 72, passed away March 4 after a brief illness.

David was a long standing member of the outdoor sportsman's community in Missouri and a supporter of MMTU. In addition to being an efficient predator and hunting guide, David also manufactured duck calls, turkey calls and developed a nifty little trout fishing pattern called "Dave's Harvester Midge" which is currently being marketed by UMPQUA (and available at Bass Pro.)

The David Welsh Celebration of Life will be held April 18, 3:00 P.M. at "The Barn", located just south of Novinger, MO on Rt. K. The family requests those attending wear camo or hunting or fishing attire and bring a duck or turkey call as part of the celebration. To view Dave's complete Obituary go to:

<http://www.kirksvilledailyexpress.com/article20150311/Obituaries/150319765>.

Brown Water by Curt Morgret

It was decision time. Early in the morning he dressed for the occasion, filled the thermos and drove the distance. And, now, he looked out on the stream trying to remember where the boarders usually lay. The water was up, off-color and muscular as it pushed its way down the drainage, swirling around tree trunks, standing up on unseen rocks as if looking back where it came from, and filling the air with its statement that it was now in charge and not in a discussion mood.

Weight, edges, seams and eddies. These words filled his thoughts on strategy. No 4-weights here. And this was not a little fish day. Nor was it wet wading. An idea whispered in

the back of his head that at least one measure of success today is to not end up downstream, wrapped around a bridge piling, collecting various flotsam on his cold, water-bloated corpse.

Maybe this wasn't the trout fishing you see on the cover of the magazines, guide websites, or the fun little videos on the internet, but it represented a certain reality: "The best day to go fishing is the day you can go." Without another thought, he popped open the pack, tossed the little square of foam pad on the ground so he could stand on it as he pulled on the waders. One, two, three, four pieces of rod lined up, reel screwed tight into its seat and line doubled and pulled through the guides. He needed only the one fly box today. Big, burly flies and make sure there's a spool of stout tippet in the vest.

The electric, impatient feeling tickled up through his body in anticipation of fish – large fish – and knowing these conditions bring them out from under the root wads, the large rocks, the cut banks. The fish feed with aggression and, when hooked, throw their bodies sideways into the current, running downstream and diving into log piles, rocks or anything else to get rid of the menacing force pulling them toward the surface.

Then, at the end of the day, dry clothes awaited, rolled up in the duffel. The car's heater fan screamed heated air around semi-hypothermic limbs. Gear not neatly packed, tossed in the back with only some care that the rod pieces were at least stowed, he wiped the fog off the windows and put the car in Drive. Spring fishing.

Book Reviews by Bill Lamberson

I picked up a couple books during winter visits to Hargrove's. The first, *Sunlit Riffles and Shadowed Runs*, was written by Kent Cowgill, a Nebraska acquaintance of mine from many years ago. You may have seen some of his writing, and some of these stories, in *Fly Rod and Reel*. This book is a collection of fishing stories, some very entertaining and some not so much. Cowgill relates with good humor

experiences that most of us have had, trying to figure out the fishing in a new locale, run-ins with rude fishermen who walk through the run you were fishing (maybe I was the person who walked through?), loss of friends, perhaps one whose wife considered you a bad influence on her husband. It is a thin book, not one that will educate you on how to catch a fish, or make you spend much thinking (unless maybe you are that bad influence), but entertaining for some winter evenings.

The second book is Steven Hawley's, *Recovering a Lost River*. This book focuses on dam removal to recover salmon and steelhead runs on the Snake River. It is a powerful book that reviews the history of the development of dams for hydroelectric generation and water diversion for human and agricultural use. I have recently been involved in, or at least audience to, recent discussions of the positive and negative effects of dams at the Trout Unlimited Embrace-a-Stream (EAS) meetings and at the Mid-South regional meetings. On one hand, dams can give us access to fishing, Tanneycomo, Norfolk, San Juan and many other rivers would not have trout without the dams that provide cold water to feed the tailwaters. Most of those, of course, replaced some other fishing opportunity available before the dam was built. On the other hand, EAS allocates money each year for removal of antiquated dams that cut off sections of streams and prevent fish from reaching spawning habitat. In this year's awards, requests came from Colorado, Maine and Oregon for that specific purpose. Hawley looks at dam removal on a grand scale, describing the prospects for removal of four major dams on the Columbia River system that could restore historic runs of anadromous fish that are currently nearly extinct. If you have an interest in fish, and not just fishing, this is a book that you should read.

Mid-Missouri Trout Unlimited

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Mid-Missouri Trout Unlimited meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month, except for July and August. The regular meeting place is in the Wine Room at Jack's Gourmet Restaurant, located on East Business Loop 170, across from the east side Westlakes Hardware in Columbia, MO. June meeting is at Stephens Park. Meeting time is at 7p.m., but come early to chat and eat. Short business meeting before hand.

One of our significant costs is printing and mailing this newsletter. If you are willing to accept it by email, more of MMTU monies can be spent on conservation. Just send your email to rileym@missouri.edu to make the switch.