



Cross Currents

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June 2015

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Notice: eNewsletter Editor Wanted

A volunteer to assemble a Newsletter on ConstantContact is needed. No special computer skills or article writing required. If you can help we can train.

Contact Michael Riley at rileym@missouri.edu or 573-808-4828 or Scott Gerlt at gerlts@missouri.edu or 573-256-9521.

Meetings and Events

June 2. MMTU Annual Hot Dog Burn. Gordon Shelter, Stephens Park Lake, 5:30 p.m. Hot dogs provided. Please bring a side dish.

October 6. MMTU Monthly Meeting. MDC photographer Nappadol Paothong will discuss outdoor photography.

President's Corner by Scott Gerlt

The Fly Fishing Film Tour is looking likely to happen again this year. The number of people concerned about it has been encouraging. As I have mentioned in a previous newsletter, we are no longer able to host it at Rag Tag due to changes in the Columbia cinema market. We have several good leads on other places and are working out the final details. We hope to show the films in late summer. More details will be coming soon.

I hope everyone has a great summer and is able to enjoy the outdoors and great fishing!

Be Prepared.....To Fish! by Milt Barr

Most people know the Boy Scout Motto "Be Prepared" but not everyone knows the Boy Scout Outdoor Code which is:

As an American, I will do my best to -
Be clean in my outdoor manners
Be careful with fire
Be considerate in the outdoors, and
Be conservation minded.

I think this code actually is a great guide for all of us...and I think over the years we all have learned this code. Anyway back to being prepared....!

The Jefferson City Boy Scout Troop number 6 planned a trip to Bennett Spring to fish for trout this past week end and to get ready they asked our Trout Unlimited chapter to present a program on trout fishing at Bennett Springs. They were mainly looking at closed and open faced fishing techniques.

Joe Cremer the Scout Leader got in touch with Michael Riley and Michael contacted me knowing that "a" I lived in Jefferson City, and "b" that I have been fishing at Bennett Springs for over 50 years and primarily use spinning rigs.

I jumped at the chance. I know that the Boy Scout organization is awesome for youth and their leaders. My son is an Eagle Scout and I was a Scout leader in between my military travels and work and he and I are also Warriors in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say at Camp H. Roe Bartle in Oceola, MO.

So I gathered up several of my rigs, three of my mounted lunker trout and several of the really good pamphlets and fishing code summaries I obtained from Bennett Springs the week prior and presented the program last Monday night at their planning meeting.

What fun! There were 15 scouts and about the same number of leaders and parents in attendance and I had about an hour to talk about my passion and my knowledge of Bennett Spring.

I quickly reviewed the summary of trout fishing regulations, the diagram of the different zones at BS and their authorized lures and license and tag requirements. I also reviewed the layout of the zones and thanks to a friend of mine that works at BS I was able to mark on the layout where the 18 points on the stream where the fish are released each night about 11 so that they kind of knew where the fish might be schooling. I then reviewed several of my favorite lures that I use along with recommendations of light lines and "tight lines" techniques of setting the hook on the "stealthy" trout.



Scouts from Troop 6 fishing at Bennett Spring

I then talked about the different kinds of trout in the stream and showed them the male and female rainbow lunker mounts I brought in and also my male Brown mount to give them an idea of what the differences are.

Finally I saved the best for last....and that was to discuss the TU mentoring program with them. They all seemed very interested especially since they could probably work on their fishing badges while being a mentee. Since I was very short on time I reviewed the program and told the scouts and their leaders that our chapter would be

glad to come back or talk to anyone interested.

Climate Change Working Group: Chair by Jeff Witten

(Jeff is Ozark's NLC representative to National TU)

Currently the Climate Change Working group has about 18 members, plus three TU staff: Jack Williams, Helen Neville and Amy Haak. We hold monthly calls. Here is the progress to Date:

Climate Change was accepted in 2014 as a Critical Focus Area by the New Initiatives Workgroup.

We developed a Climate Change Brochure, as an outreach resource for TU member <http://www.tu.org/node/33218> (under 2014: Neville and Williams)

In early February 2015 we revised our (existing) Energy Policy to include Climate Change; we forwarded revision to NLC for review and it will be considered by The Board in June, 2015.

Note: We took this route because it was clear that a stand-alone Climate Change Policy would not be viable; by doing this we hope to achieve a clear, accessible and very visible Climate Change and Energy Policy, quickly.

We developed a schedule of monthly blogs to be posted by group members with the goal of establishing a more visible presence on Climate Change; the focus is on highlighting observed changes - i.e., what you're seeing in your back yard; so far we have posted 7 blogs and done one radio show.

Jeff Witten and/or other group members have committed to attending every regional meeting to present on Climate Change, and science staff will participate as well.

We pushed for TU to sign on to Co2Id Film, which TU did. Jeff will show film at all regional meetings, and it is now available for Chapter use as well. Please inform Helen Neville of when/where you show it so I can help track (hnevile@tu.org):

Link: <http://vimeo.com/114366620>

Password: caddis

We have developed a Climate Change Awareness presentation for TU members to use at chapter meetings or for any outreach needs.

We have pushed TU to develop a climate change section on website, which is under development and will likely entail an entirely new focal page/link.

We have worked with Kirk Deeter to push for a Climate Change article in Trout mag, which we hope will be published in the fall.

FYI, there are two climate change webinars available on TU's website, and we hope to

present another in the fall of 2015:

Amy Haak did one for us in 2013 on "Building Resistance and Resilience to Climate Change in Your Streams."

http://videos.tu.org/ClimateChange/lib/playback.html?_qa=1.73327643.94669500.1380652781

Zach Cockrum did one for us in 2011 on "Coldwater Conservation in a Changing Climate."

http://videos.tu.org/ConservationTrainingRecordings/ClimateChange/lib/playback.html?_qa=1.74484762.94669500.1380652781

Mentee Report by Michael Riley

Ten Scouts from Troop 13 Hallsville got their first experience at tying flies. Instructors were Bill Lamberson, John Meyer and Michael Riley. It went fairly well as scouts were attentive and showed great interest in learning. They tied a couple of olive woolly burgers, and then a blue gill pattern. Some even mastered the whip finish.

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Meeting Place

Mid-Missouri Trout Unlimited meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month, except for July and August. The regular meeting place, except June, is in the Wine Room at Jack's Gourmet Restaurant, located on East Business Loop I70, across from the east tide Westlakes Hardware in Columbia, MO.

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