



# Cross Currents

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March 2016

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**Damage at the Boat Ramp at Baptist Camp**

**Notice: MMTU Newsletter will be going to a mobile format soon.**

**Meetings and Events**

**Friday February 26, 2016, 5:30: MMTU Conservation Banquet at Stoney Creek Inn, Columbia, MO. \$40 tickets at the door.**

**Tuesday March 1, monthly meeting at Jack's. Jeff Trigg presents on Recent Innovations on Streamer Materials**

**March 11-12, Mid South Region Trout Unlimited in Fayetteville, AR. Hilton Garden Inn - Fayetteville, AR. The discounted rate for our meeting is \$129/night. Call (479) 856-6040 and ask for the Trout Unlimited group rate. Be sure to reserve your room before February 10, 2016 in order to receive the special group discount.**

**Saturday April 23, 8:30am-5:00pm. Introductory Level Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring, MDC Central Office, Jefferson City Register by Wednesday April 6th.**

**Sept 3rd George Daniel** will be giving a special presentation on Streamer Fishing.

**President's Corner by Ryan Verkamp**

The 31st annual MMTU banquet is just a few days away and we have many great items lined up for the auctions along with great food and spirits. Please come and support the chapter this Friday evening. The warm weather is already upon us as February presented plenty of opportunities to wet a fly or get out in the woods. Hopefully you were ready for the early warm up. Fridays temperature is currently showing 49 degrees with zero percent chance of precip so it won't be as sporty getting hope this year from the banquet. I hope to see everyone at the banquet!

**Here's what cooking at the Verbal Auction from Curt Morgret, Banquet Prolocutor. This Friday February 26 at Stoney Creek Inn.**

**Paul Heine Print** -We loved Paul dearly and miss him a lot. Paul donated his work for our cover every year for, like, forever. Buy this. Now.

**Fish Pond Fly Fishing Vest** - Our good friends at Bass Pro snuck this out the back door and gave it to us to sell here tonight. Don't disappoint the boys and bid like your spouse won't look at the credit card bill.

**Turkey Hunting Trip, Flint Hills, Kansas** - Michael Riley is a very generous member, former president, former every officer position we have and he's going to host this trip on the family farm in Kansas with a little help from Dean Rapp. It's safe to go: Kansas couldn't make it into the SEC with us. Have a good time and

remember to "buy your gas in Missouri before you leave the state1."

**Sage Accel, 691-4** - I get confused by all the numbers but it looks like a nice Sage rod about 9' long for a 6 weight line. Say "howdy" to the fellows sittin' over at the 3Creeks Outdoors table. They were tremendously generous with help on this and they came to the banquet, too! Hey Darin! Hi Steve!

**Leather Shoulder Bag ("It's European")** - C'mon, it's a Seinfeld quote; you gotta be at least 30 to get it. Thank you Dave Megahan. What a great guy. Shoot a kudu and take it over to Dave's shop, Columbia Taxidermy. His number is 573-474-6058.

**Sonos Speakers** - Time to pack up the Philco transistor and get something nicer. Mike Gibler's granddaughter made him donate these. Mike has a wonderful little business down in Jefferson City called Goldfish Electronic Integration for home theatre and security. Thank you, Mike!

**Smallmouth Fishing Trip** - Now this is pretty darn special because Jeff Trigg takes you to his secret spots. He provides the blindfold (no peeky) and you have to leave your smartphone at home (no GPS 'n.) Jeff knows where every smallmouth over 3 pounds in Missouri and Northern Arkansas lives.

**SonicDry Wader** - Sized to your body and ordered after the banquet. These are so nice I unzip them a little so I can see and wear them upside down to work as a raincoat. Thanks 3Creeks!

**Skagit Wading Boots** - If you bought the waders . . . those 3Creeks guys again. We owe them a big thank you and a bunch of beer. Speaking of beer, have another one and bid some more.

**Colorado Three Day Fishing Trip for Two People** - This is the deal. One day on the Arkansas River, in Colorado, with our friend Preston Larimer of Arkanglers in Buena Vista. So, cool river and tons of Blue Wing Olives. Then two days with Ken Neubecker over near Glenwood Springs. Ken is the American Rivers director in Colorado and used to be TU President of Colorado, and grew up in Wisconsin and . . . I've fished with them both. You'll have a great time!

**Brook Trout print by Joseph Tomelleri** - This is really nice and Joe has a worldwide reputation. Bill Lamberson donated the art but, as you can see, he didn't paint it. He builds bamboo rods.

**Bamboo Fly Rod on F.E. Thomas taper by Bill Lamberson, Rod maker** - Bill is a local, so sometimes it's easy to forget how special his rods are (if he only lived 50 miles from here.) Bill's work has been collected internationally and across the good ol' USA. Nodeless, clear cork, beautiful finish and a sweet action. It's worth



at least \$3,000!!

**Casting Lessons, 4 hours with Scott Gerlt, IFFF CC- Scott** was our president, he's certified, has a real nice wife and a couple of kids and he pays me \$10 a month not to tell people he gave me a lesson (Ooops, sorry.) I saw you over there whipping that Sage rod around . . . you need these lessons.

**Night on the Town - Where do I start? Scott Atkins**, bless his heart, has donated a bunch of gift certificates to restaurants including the ones in this package. And then, **Ginger Koziatek** gave us some gorgeous wine (I think the bottles are still full.) Then we topped it off with the donation of a themed suite from Stoney Creek. Hey, there are certain people expecting you to bid on this.

**Ross 9' 9 wt Saltwater Outfit - Tom Hargrove, of Hargrove's Fly Shop, St. Louis, MO**, wants you to go saltwater fishing. Tom Hargrove needs you to go saltwater fly fishing. Somebody, please oblige Tom! Get your flies at his shop and buy some sunscreen. Get one of those nice Patagonia shirts, too, while you're in there.

**Douglas 8 ½' 4 wt rod with Orvis Reel and Line** - This is really interesting. So we gave, like, a whole bunch of banquet money to Trout Unlimited's Embrace-A-Stream Program last year and they sent back this really nice rod. Now, we're going to sell it to you, then use that money as a donation and . . . you get the idea. This is a good thing.

**Bob Hook Flies** - Did you know Bob grew up in West Virginia? He's fished all over the world? He used to be a professor at the University of Missouri? Well, if you looked at the quality of these flies you would think that all he's ever done was tie flies. These are sweet!

**Bennett Springs Special** - Wow, this is a package. Zip lines, Cabin rental, Casting Lessons with Fishing! Take some of that vacation time and go to Benny! **Margie Meyer's homemade pies** and Basil-Hayden's Small Batch Bourbon picked out for us by John - you know the drill: last item so empty out your pockets.

**Oh, let's not forget the Kayak provided by the Alpine Shop for the Card Raffle. Wow, it comes with lessons. Little late for last summer.**

**And then there are those great deals in the Silent Auction, more than I should espouse on here (I know that's hard to believe.) If someone would just provide a link to MMTU's website, I wouldn't even have to list them!**

[MMTU Auction Items](#)

**Embrace A Stream Rod Project from Bill Lamberson**

Thank you to the Ozark Council for providing support for constructing the bamboo rods for fund raising for the Trout Unlimited Embrace-A-Stream program. We met in Tampa this

weekend to allocate funds to chapters for projects. The Branson Chapter received partial funding for the stormwater filtration project at the visitor center.



**The EAS committee with the Bamboo rod for each TU region.**

It will likely appear in a future edition of Trout. The rods will be raffled among chapters and councils within each region. For each \$50 of contributions by chapters or councils to EAS, the contributing group will receive one ticket to win a rod. The winning group can then use that rod for their own fundraising. Kyle Smith is the TU Membership Engagement Manager and the TU liaison with the EAS committee, and he has the rods in his possession and will manage the raffles. We hope this will get the ball rolling to encourage chapters and councils to donate to EAS. Mid-Missouri TU and the Ozark Council has

been exceptionally good to do that, and that was considered when the decision was made to provide funds for the Branson project. In fact, the history of contributions to the EAS program will be a future consideration in decisions toward funding project. I have appreciated the opportunity to have served on the EAS committee. Russ Meyer will be contacting you and other council chairs in the region to determine a new EAS rep.

### **Status of Current River: Michael Riley Reporting**

There was a great flash flood on many of the rivers in Missouri late December 2015. After more than a week coupe up in the house, the weatherman promised a warm day. That made it easy to make a trip to the Current. Passing though Montauk the water levels looked near normal and the green and turquoise colors looked very fishy. I first stopped at Tan Vat early in the morning. Lots of fog condensing



above the river surface, so typical of a winter day. At first glance I thought I saw snow, but more critical observation revealed it was white sand.

The next stop was at Baptist Camp. I was prohibited from driving to the boat ramp by large concert barriers. The picture at the top shows the hydrological power of water on the concrete bank that was built to prevent erosion. Opps. A gravel bar down stream of Baptist experience some erosion: washed out on the bottom side and deposition of sand on top side.



**Down Stream of Tan Vat**



**A Gravel Bar Down Stream of Baptist Camp**

On another gravel bar I stood a couple of feet above the river and stood my 9' rod vertically. There was some debris on a live brush above my rod. No doubt the river was flowing then and has changed the river immensely. Generally, the runs are deeper and most the riffles in the same place, although extended downstream in some cases. But don't expect to cross the river in all the places you did last year. There more root wades and debris for fish habitat and for fishers to get hung up on! Folks, in part it's like having a new river to learn. Good luck out there.

### **Branson Chapter gets Embrace A Stream by John Wenzlick**

On Saturday, February 20, 2016, Bill Lamberson, our Embrace-A-Stream representative, wrote: "We are just finishing our meeting on Embrace-A-Stream proposals. Our funding was very limited this year, and there was a strong slant

toward supporting projects involving native fish, but I am pleased to report that \$2000 was allocated to the Branson project. I will send additional details as they are available." Phil Lilley, Branson Chapter President's reply was, "Great news!" In 2001 The Branson TU received an Embrace-A-Stream grant to build a storm water filtration structure to catch and filter runoff from the parking lot. It is being torn down to make way for a new Conservation Center building. The new EAS grant along with other donated funds will help MDC build four new state of the art Bio-Retention Rain Garden systems which are more environmentally friendly, attractive and also keep Lake Taneycomo healthy. Guests entering will pass by the location and signing explaining the importance of keeping pollutants out of Lake Taneycomo and that construction of the system was sponsored by Branson Chapter TU.

### **Notice: eNewsletter Editor Wanted**

**A volunteer to assemble our Newsletter on Constant Contact is needed. No special computer skills or article writing required. If you can help, we can train. Contact Michael Riley at [rileym@missouri.edu](mailto:rileym@missouri.edu) or 573-808-4828 or Ryan Verkamp at [ryan.verkamp@gmail.com](mailto:ryan.verkamp@gmail.com) or 573-201-7044.**

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## Meeting Place

Mid-Missouri Trout Unlimited meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm, 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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