



Cross Currents

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April 2016

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Flood Damage to the Circle Drive at Baptist Camp

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

Meetings and Events

Tuesday April 5, 7pm: monthly meeting at Jack's. Wesley Swee, Missouri Hatchery Manager presents on ' State of Missouri Rivers after the December

2015 floods'. He will also answer question regarding Missouri's Updated Trout Plan!

Saturday April 9, 8-noon: Mill Creek Clean Up. Meet at Mill Creek Park at 8 to receive materials for trash pickup. Noon Lunch provided Mill Creek Watershed Coalition. Contact Mark @ 573.433.5719, Facebook.com/Friends of Mill Creek, or www.millcreekmo.org/ for more information.

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

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

President's Corner by Ryan Verkamp

As we now have this years banquet behind us, our chapter turns our focus on getting out and about on several cold water fisheries in the state of Missouri. Many of these fisheries were effected during the late December floods last year and may take some time to be restored to the great fisheries they were prior to the flood. What better group to tell us all about the floods than the Missouri Department of Conservation is sending someone to discuss the status of the clear water streams in Missouri and hopefully give us some pointers, or opportunities, on how our organization can help restore these fisheries. This is one presentation you will not want to miss, so grab a friend and join us the our April meeting.

On a different note, please be sure to support and thank the banquet sponsors. The banquet would not be possible without them. As a result, we wouldn't be able to financially support coldwater conservation. We are blessed to have many great supporters so please let our sponsors know that we appreciate their support.

Ozark National Scenic Riverways Stakeholder Meeting Sam Potter Reporting

The first week of February I received an invitation in the mail from the National Scenic Riverways to attend a stakeholder meeting. A limited list of representatives with different park interests were given invitations to attend the meeting with the purpose of providing frank input and creative thinking in regards to the future of roads and trails within the National Scenic Riverways.

We were divided into 4 discussion groups and were provided 4 topics.



Each group had a set amount of time for bouncing around ideas and potential problem solving. At the end of the set time, each group presented their ideas to everyone at the meeting. All of the ideas were written down on large display pads and will be kept by the NPS for reference to the stakeholder inputs. Without going into a lot of detail, one basic thought continued to raise its head from every group and for just about every topic.

Horse Erosion that is crotch deep.

Volunteers from various clubs and organizations, working with the NPS in coordinated projects seems to be a direction everyone agreed on. We all know the NPS is limited with manpower and money and the roads and trails will be a huge project. With the aid of volunteers the implementation of set projects will come about much faster and a save money for the ONSR to use on other projects, like repairing the flood damage at Baptist Camp access. On a side note; In case you have not been down there recently, the circle drive is closed because the river wants that corner pretty bad and has eaten away part of the road bed.

Volunteers from various clubs and organizations, working with the NPS

Banquet Report from Curt Morgret

Well, another one in the bag. Anybody not a have a good time? The auctioneer scared the crap out of me when he started. Thanks Kyle George, we loved the performance. Several new attendees this year, tremendous support again from Bill Lamberson (bamboo rod to auction and a rod to donate for the Colorado trip), new donors including Mike Gibler down in Jefferson City, 3Creeks provided a lot of great swag and has anybody seen the pies and whiskey bring \$725 before?

George Bohigian came over from St. Louis with a couple of friends and I think they dropped a few dollars while they were here. Always glad to see George. And, son-of-a-^{*}^\$%#,(I mean "gun") Spencer Turner won the raffle for the kayak. What, a kayak, two canoes, countless fly rods and bucket raffles? . . . I'm taking Spencer to a convenience store to buy me a lottery ticket. Marshall Simpson, Gary Kula, the boys from 3Creeks, I know I'm leaving a bunch out but what a grand crowd.

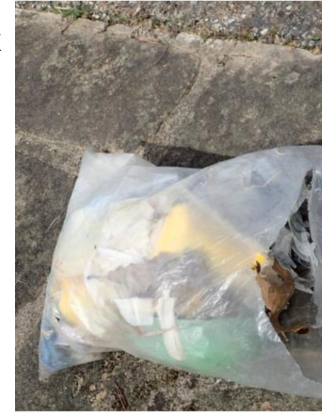
We had a wrap up meeting a couple of weeks afterward and it's all agreed: we're gonna have wine and beer again next year. Someone said something about "the key to the vault." Anyway, we made a little over \$10,000 this year, so, that ranks up there with our best net proceed banquets and we'll make sure it goes to good use for cold water conservation. This was a good one folks. Thanks for coming, thanks for helping, thanks for having a great time.

Put it on your calendar: **February 24, 2017. Anybody need any tickets?**

One Plastic Bag at a Time from Sam Potter

How often do you spend a day fishing on a stream and appreciating the beauty of where you are? Once a year six times a year 20 times a year? While you were walking to the streams, or getting your gear ready in the parking lot, did you see any trash on the ground or maybe some fishing line hanging on a limb while you were fishing? At the end of the day, when you are finishing playing, take a plastic bag out of your vest or hip pack and collect trash on your way back to the truck.

I know it wasn't your trash and maybe you think someone else needs to pick it up. Unfortunately you and I have to share this beautiful place where we fish with people that don't care what it looks like or how much damage they cause. The person that left the trash doesn't care and he sure as hell won't be the one picking it up. We have to be stewards of their stupidity until they are caught some day and fined a good chunk of a pay check to help them think about it. What are a few extra seconds of your time on your walk back to the truck to stop and clean up the place that you appreciated all day. If each of us did this, One Plastic Bag At A Time, maybe the next time you or I fish there we won't see trash on our walk to the stream or the parking lot. It wasn't a big bag, but it held all of this trash I found yesterday afternoon. Some of it went to recycling bins and the rest went in a trash can..... Notice the beer can labeled BEER, that's a new one for me.



Spring Disorder by Curt Morgret

I dreamed about flying last night. I've been listening to a lot of Jimmy Buffett in the car. And lately I've thought a lot about driving west with nothing but a tent, sleeping bag and a bunch of fly rods. It must be spring.

Being a serious, obligated father and employee, I'm not prone to daydreams or whimsical thoughts very often and mostly use my brain capacity to organize my business day, plan out my kid's collegiate futures and tweak the retirement accounts. But in the spring, as the jonquils push up through the ground, ideas of dropping everything to the floor, loading the truck and leaving it all behind (No, no

sweetheart, not you!) push through the detritus of my gray matter and wind through my thoughts, choking out good productive capacity.

So, I would take the two-burner camp stove and at least one of the backpack stoves, a six-weight, five-weight and a four-weight, the Filson bags . . . Sssshhh! Bloomberg articles indicate that commodity pricing has left the dollar vulnerable, affecting export ability, so should I lower exposure to companies . . . and maybe take the 12-gauge pump in case there's an opportunity to turkey hunt someplace? Remember traveling from Carbondale over to Crested Butte and seeing the wild turkeys in the narrow fields of the valleys?

The interesting speculation is how many rate hikes the Federal Reserve is building into their projections for the next nine months and how that affects whether I should take the big stainless steel Coleman cooler or a couple of smaller ones? I'm thinking two sleeping pads for a little extra comfort and the big propane lantern is always nice to have along as well. We should probably consider offering some of our clients forward rate locks on their refinancing requests as we look out over the next six months. Should I go south first to New Mexico, where it's warmer? Then head north toward Montana with the season or would it be more fun to go far west and try California?

And wouldn't it be fun to have a little two-seater airplane again? A Citabria with yellow and white paint or that really cool light blue. The 150 hp engine with the inverted oil system is best so you can fly upside down and try a few loops and rolls. I would have a little grass air strip, a wood pole hangar with barn siding, a sheet metal roof and an old web-strap lawn chair sitting in the shade, to the side near the dust and grime covered tool box and ancient refrigerator. In the corner, back in the darkest shadows, sits a pile of old beer cans with some bees flying around attracted to the backwash left in the bottoms of the most recent discards. I could fit a smaller friend in the backseat of the Citabria and just enough gear for several of days fly fishing. There are a couple of small air fields in Southern Minnesota we could get to in about three hours depending on winds. Surely we could beg an old pickup as a rental from somebody and cover a bunch of different streams, maybe catching a mayfly hatch, or later in the summer some terrestrials along the edges hunting for skittish browns lurking in the undercuts and, with a little hope and a prayer, maybe a native brookie in there some place.

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 or 573-808-4828 or Ryan Verkamp at 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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