



Cross Currents

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April 2018

**Tuesday, April 3rd
6-8 pm
regular meeting at the
Conley HyVee
(next to Sams)
2nd Floor Meeting Room**

Individuals can purchase any food or beverage they want from the variety of Hy-Vee options including the Market Grille. Meeting at 7 PM with conversation starting at 6 PM.



April Program

Tuesday, April 3rd, at 6PM, Monthly Meeting at HyVee. MMTU is having a knot challenge. A good time to share your favorite trusted knot, plus learn what other knots are the go to knot for others.

Needed: Newsletter Editor. Please email Ryan if interested.
ryan.verkamp@gmail.com

Please post your fishing outings on:
MMTU Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/MidMOTU> or
MMTU WEB <http://midmissouri.tu.org>

President's Corner by Mike Kruse

Greetings!

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the April meeting. Be sure to swing by the East Broadway HyVee upstairs meeting room to take part in the "Knot Olympics."

Show us your favorite knot for tying Fly/Lure to leader, leader to leader, leader to fly line or fly line to backing and enter your favorite in the "head to head, single elimination tournament" to determine Top Knot. Lines and related supplies will be provided. Should be fun and a great way to share what you know with others.

We'll start the evening with a brief business meeting where I'll update you on the discussions we had at the St. Patty's Day planning meeting. In brief, we had good discussions on a variety of topics and there is great interest in energizing the Chapter with upcoming fishing trips and events.

See you on April 3!

Mike Kruse, President
Mid-Missouri Chapter Trout Unlimited

A New Board of Trustees Member

Again, thank you for supporting me. It is an honor to be Missouri's first Trustee but being one says more about Missouri than it does about me. MO is well represented at the national level through our representation not only at the National Leadership Council and by our Council Chair, but also by our strong presence on Embrace-a-Stream. I attended my first Board meeting in DC and want to share with you what the Board does. I am not only impressed with the caliber of Trustees TU attracts but thankful for their dedication. Three in-person meetings are held annually.

Trustees develop policy for TU and are charged with fiduciary responsibility for the entire organization. Our annual budget is tens of millions of dollars, most raised from Federal, State and private Foundation via grants.

Two new policies were recently approved, one on Anti-Harassment and the other on Marijuana. To receive federal funds, TU must certify we are in compliance with all federal laws, therefore chapters and council shall not knowingly accept contributions from known marijuana industry members or which originate from any source or activity prohibited by law. We must also not allow the use of illegal substances at any events even if legal under state law.

Board committees also meet via conference call during the year. I participate on the Organization Development and Marketing committees but sit in on others. Membership growth is a key issue. We now have 300,000 Members and Followers. New strategies are reviewed to attract and retain members. With changing demographics it is important we continue to attract younger members age 25 to 40 and also grow through diversity initiatives.

Developing and focusing on major initiatives such as Pebble Mine, Climate Change adaptation and a new web-site, just to name a few. Trout magazine has evolved and now has the largest circulation among all fly-fishing periodicals.

Like other Trustees, I spent a day on Capital Hill talking with our two Senators about issues important to TU. We told our legislators why public land ownership should remain as is and not turned over to the States that so often sell them to private interests to raise money. We told them how the millions of dollars we receive through the Farm Bill translates into local jobs and improved soil management for farmers as well as promotes good habitat for trout. One of Senator Roy Blunt's assistants is a TU member and former MDC employee.

TU has always impressed me as a grassroots led organization. Seeing how the

Board operates, I can assure you grassroots are strong.

Jeff Witten, Trustee
MOtrout@aol.com for questions

2018 Chile trip to remember

Want to wet-wade small rivers and streams for Browns and Rainbows for a week and not see other fishermen? Want to catch 14" to 24" fish on #14 dries? Elk Hair Caddis or Attractors? Want to do a budget trip, no big lodge, no guide, no boats?

Michael Riley and I arrived in Coyhaique, Chile in mid-January to enjoy 75° days with barely one small sprinkle of rain. We were met by MoKan TU Member Norm Crisp, a 12-year veteran of Chile. His knowledge made all of this happen and he is in the process of penning a do-it-yourself book.

Norm stays in town at a B&B in the middle of Chile's finest trout waters. Access to the water is a 45-minute drive followed by easy hiking. One can choose medium gradient pool fishing or meandering 10' to 20' wide streams with undercut banks just begging for your attention. The gravel roads require a high clearance rental vehicle but not 4-wheel drive. The water and food in town has never given me Montezuma's revenge, I get no prior shots nor take special meds with me. Take sun screen.

Take 4 & 6 weight rods, be sure to take plenty of flies and tippet and anything else you need on the stream, shopping in town is sparse. Though you won't need waders, I always take them but never use them. Take sun screen.

The trip is more than 30 hours door-to-door from MO but remember, the odds are you won't see other fishermen on the streams. In the airports you will see International passengers, like you, carrying a rod tube, but they are bound for the lodges. Lodges are nice, but you are captive. From a lodge, you will likely fish rivers and lakes from a boat, it's a personal choice. You will also eat too much gourmet food and wine.

The local citizens are friendly, but the trout are the real ambassadors. Knowing a little Spanish makes the experience a little easier and keeps reminding you how special the trip is. Being their Summer, many of Santiago tourists busy the town but they have come for enjoyments other than fishing. The International tourists seem to be there to enjoy the abundant natural beauty. You see plenty of backpackers, but not on the streams.

Add this to your bucket list and keep it near the top. Take sun screen.

Jeff Witten
MOtrout@aol.com for questions.





Meeting Place: Mid-Missouri Trout Unlimited meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm, except for July and August. The current meeting place is Upstairs Meeting Room at Hy-Vee off Conley, Columbia MO. In June the meeting is held at Stephens Lake Park, at 5:30 pm.

Mid Missouri Trout Unlimited Officers

| | | | |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| President | Mike Kruse | 573 875 2033 | mkflyfishing@gmail.com |
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