



# Cross Currents

June, 2002

Mid - Missouri Chapter, Trout Unlimited

## KENT CAMPBELL SPEAKS AT MAY MEETING

At our May meeting, Kent Campbell made a presentation that had been eagerly awaited by MMTU members for several months. An expert fly fisherman, Kent manages the Clearwater Fly Shop in Columbia and is extremely knowledgeable about the latest developments in tackle and equipment. During the evening of May 5, Kent shared some of that knowledge with us and brought with him some fine examples of the new merchandise that is currently available.

Although our economy has been in a recession, advancements in fly fishing equipment continue to be made at an impressive rate. Kent discussed a wide range of issues of interest to us, including the effect the economic slowdown has had on the fly fishing industry. He was very candid in his discussion, and his honesty and sincerity was most appreciated. Attending this meeting was an excellent opportunity for each of us to get an insider's look at an industry we are all deeply interested in.

Some of the items Kent brought with him were a Sage SLT490-4 rod, Ross Canyon Big Game reel in the new gold color, Ross Gunnison 2 reel in the blue and black "seasplash", C&F fly boxes in several sizes and designs including the waterproof boxes, Cortland's new 555 line in 4 through 8 weights in both gold and sage colors, Flytech's Four Season Wader with available



Garry Teeple (right) listens to Kent's presentation

fleece, Thinsulate and Comfortemp liners. He also discussed the St. Croix UFT-898 8 weight 3-piece rod, and William Joseph's new line of vests and tackle management systems.

Kent also played a new wading video produced by Simms named "Wading Safety." He concluded his presentation with some wading tips of his own based on his years of fly fishing experience. Is there something he would like to have added to the Simm's wading video? Yes - "Keep the top of your waders dry, THIS just might save your life!"

If you've never been to the Clearwater Fly Shop, you owe it to yourself to visit it soon. Kent carries a wide variety of fly fishing merchandise, including some hard-to-find items like the yarn needed to tie the Mike's Mohair Leech streamer fly. If you are from

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

out of town, be sure to stop by Clearwater the next time you drive through the area on Interstate 70. It is located at 1206 Business Loop 70 West, Suite M, in Columbia, and is very easy to get to from the Interstate. If you've never had the opportunity to meet Kent, then you should make it a point to stop by and get acquainted.

The URL for Clearwater's Web site is [www.clearwaterflyshop.com](http://www.clearwaterflyshop.com) and their toll-free number is (877) 392-3320.

## **GRAVEL MINING GUIDELINES ON HOLD**

By John Wenzlick

This letter is in support of additional rules currently proposed by the Land Reclamation Commission of the Mo. Department of Natural Resources to better address the commercial mining of sand and gravel from Missouri's streams.

The proposed additions to the rules are almost identical to the "special conditions" listed in the now defunct Army Corps of Engineers' (COE) General 404 permit, GP-34M which was made available to miners in 1995 as an alternative to the long, drawn-out Individual 404 permit process. It was created as the end result of the 1 and 1/2-year cooperative effort of a committee made up of representatives of the gravel mining industry, county commissioners, regulating agencies (Department of Natural Resources, COE, EPA), consulting agencies (Missouri Department of Conservation, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service), and environmental groups (e.g., Sierra Club). It was quickly adopted by industry, largely due to ease of application. The COE lost authority over excavation a couple of years ago as a result of a lawsuit. The Land Reclamation Program is only proposing to take up the mining requirements that were long ago agreed upon by industry — no surprises.

It is ironic that right after the Missouri Conservation Commission established a new Wild Trout Management Area on Little Piney Creek, Phelps County on March 1, 2001 that a gravel mining operation moved in last fall right in the middle of it. The mining is being done according to its permits but still a good buffer zone must be kept up and mining must be restricted during spawning season to allow this to become a prize wild trout area. We realize that there is a lot of private land along Little Piney Creek and that the landowners have every right to mine gravel along its banks but we need these new rules to make sure this precious 10 miles of creek gets protection. We're sure this wonderful resource can flourish along with the gravel mining if good rules are in place.

*The above is an excerpt from a letter I wrote to DNR, on behalf of 1700 Missouri TU members, supporting the rules changes. I talked to the Mo. DNR to get an update on the proposals status. After the last hearing they received a lot of letters in favor of the guidelines becoming rules. The Land Reclamation Commission can now decide whether to go ahead with the rule making process, modify the rules or drop the whole thing. They will probably decide at their July 25, 2002 meeting.*

## **HOT DOG BURN JUNE 4**

The annual Hot Dog Burn will be held at Bethel Park on June 4 beginning at 6:00 pm. Come earlier if you want, bring your fishing rods and a side dish. TU will provide the hot dogs, buns, soda and condiments. There is no other program at this time so be prepared to tell some fishing stories or other made-up stuff because nobody is going to believe you anyway. This is one of the favorite events of the year because there is always the chance of seeing the cook set something on fire and the kids always love it when the fire trucks show up.

- Curt Morgret



Nicholas Peters, 6, enjoying Kids' Fishing Day 2002

(Jerry Dean photo)

## KIDS' FISHING DAY 2002

Although high water conditions forced the cancellation of Kids' Fishing Day May 18th at Montauk State Park and Maramec Spring Park, it went on as scheduled at Bennett Spring and Roaring River.

Kids' Fishing Day has been rescheduled at Montauk and Maramec Spring for July 27, 2002. Roaring River State Park will be holding a second Kids' Fishing Day this year on September 14, 2002.

Kids' Fishing Day is traditionally the first Saturday following Mother's Day each year at Missouri's four trout parks. This year at Roaring River alone, more than 1,000 children participated in the event, and over seventy kids caught their first fish ever. Through the years, Kids' Fishing Day has developed into a great way to help pass our sport along to a whole new generation.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### If Trout Were Unlimited

With all of this rain...if trout were truly unlimited, they could survive in our backyards, and in the basements of some unfortunate souls. The rain canceled our club's trip to the North Fork; actually it is postponed until the fall. Many thanks to John for organizing, planning and especially calling and calling to let people know the trip was off.

I will think of all of you at the Hot Dog Burn while I'm in a mountain stream in WV. It is possible to do Rainbow, Brown and Brook in the same day, even wild ones. The treat many love is indigenous Speckled (brook) trout from a small Run (creek). Where we will fish is the biggest Black Bear producing county in the state, and they are getting harder to find in the wild yet easier to find near the city, go figure!

Soon the rains will pass, the streams will clear and, hopefully, all of us will be enjoying our favorite pastime. Good luck to all, enjoy the burn, enjoy the summer, and enjoy the streams.

- Jeff Witten

## MMTU CALENDAR

**June 4, 2002, 6:00 p.m. at Bethel Park.** Carrying on an MMTU tradition, the June meeting will be held again this year at Bethel Park. Dubbed "The Hot Dog Burn" in years past by Curt Morgret, this event is a great way to have some outdoor fun with your fellow TU'ers. Bring a side dish, and don't forget your favorite rod and bluegill flies.

**No meeting scheduled in July.**

**August 6, 7:30 p.m.** Meeting will be back at MDC's Fisheries Research Facility located at Stadium and College, in Columbia.

**Mid-Missouri Chapter  
Trout Unlimited  
P.O. Box 10285  
Columbia, MO 65205**

---

**Mid-Missouri Chapter  
Trout Unlimited  
Officers and Directors - 2002**

President:	Jeff Witten	573-442-1516
Past President:	Tammy Atkins	573-446-4499
Vice President	Bob Suits	573-445-6082
Secretary:	Jon Deal	573-442-0931
Treasurer:	Mike Riley	573-817-0631
Membership:	John Wenzlick	573-634-3096
Resources:	Mike Kruse	573-875-2033
Conservancy:	Curt Morgret	573-446-4776
Member-at-large:	Spencer Turner	573-474-6477
Banquet:	Curt Morgret	573-446-4776
Newsletter editor:	Jim Washabaugh	573-893-3807

*Cross Currents*, the Mid-Missouri Chapter of Trout Unlimited newsletter, has a circulation of approximately 300. Regular chapter meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month, except for July. The meeting place is usually the Missouri Department of Conservation Fisheries Research Facility at Stadium and College in Columbia, Missouri. Meeting time is 7:30 p.m. See the newsletter for any changes.

Internet:  
[www.agron.missouri.edu/flyfishing/mmtu.html](http://www.agron.missouri.edu/flyfishing/mmtu.html)

---