



Cross Currents

August, 2003

M i d - M i s s o u r i C h a p t e r , T r o u t U n l i m i t e d



Charlie Reading explains a fine point of advanced fly casting during his presentation at our June meeting

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Trout Stocking in Columbia

The result of our vote was almost unanimously in favor of stocking trout in a Columbia lake to create a seasonable fishery similar to those in St Louis and KC. One dissenting voter took the time to compose his thoughts. You can read his article in this newsletter.

Voting took place at our June cookout and via email and telephone. This year's Hotdog Burn was without a doubt the best we have ever had, and that does not mean the food was great nor that nobody got food poisoning!

Bill Lamberson took the initiative to organize a fly rod casting clinic. Charlie Reading traveled from his newly remodeled fly shop near Bennett Spring to spend the evening with us. He was extremely generous with

his knowledge and time. After about a 40-minute conversation regarding his thoughts, techniques and preferences, he followed his casting demonstration with one-on-one instructing.

Charlie has two gifts; one obviously is his casting coordination, the other his ability to teach. If you were there you were impressed with the time he took with anyone that had a question. Charlie can effectively teach both through demonstration and the spoken word. The true signature of an expert is one that has honed a skill to the point where what he does looks effortless. Charlie is there, in spades. Thank you Charlie!

And thanks again to Bill for his initiative. The bad news is that Bill was out of town that night and couldn't join us.

Trout stocking is well on its way to becoming a reality this fall. The City, MDC and you will jointly fund the project. One goal of the project, initiated by our chapter, is to increase awareness of TU in central MO so take the opportunity to enroll an interested non-member. Watch for more information in the near future. Hope you have enjoyed the summer. See you at our meeting.

- **JEFF WITTEN**

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Our chapter's P.O. box has been moved to the downtown post office. Here is our new address:

**PO Box 10025
Columbia, MO 65205**

TERRY FINGER EXPLAINS HIS OPPOSITION TO THE WINTER TROUT STOCKING PROPOSAL

Here is the complete text of the recent letter from Terry Finger that Jeff Witten referred to in his President's Message:

In the last TU newsletter the leadership of the chapter asked for votes and opinions from members on the proposed winter trout stocking of a Columbia lake. My vote is an emphatic NO.

Over 50 years ago Missouri made a tactical error in establishing the trout park concept. The monster that was created has now provided several generations of anglers with a distorted concept of what angling is really all about. These anglers have now come to expect the crowded conditions and unrealistic catch rates that can only be achieved by ridiculously high stocking rates and what essentially amounts to fishing in hatchery raceways. That something is seriously out of balance can clearly be documented by noting that Missouri, a state with very limited coldwater habitat, ranks fourth in the country in hatchery weight production. In an era of dwindling state revenue and resources, maintaining this program requires a tremendous public expenditure but, with distorted angler expectations fully entrenched, the program is now politically impossible to abolish.

The same error is now being made with the development since 1990 of "urban winter trout management." The same highly artificial angling scenario, the same unrealistic angler expectations, and the same heavy expenditure of public resources. With hatchery capacity and state budgets strained to the breaking point, that MDC and several cities should contribute public resources to such a program is highly questionable; that an organization such as TU should offer its endorsement and financial resources is simply inappropriate. The newsletter said the chapter's dual goals are "to teach conservation in the community and increase our chapter identity." Establishing a highly artificial Disneyesque fishery of seasonally doomed

fish does not teach conservation. The program may indeed increase chapter identity, but that identity will be one of an organization that spends its resources on a fantasy-based program when that \$2,000 could be better spent, as it has been in the past, on cooperative projects that improve habitat and provide more public access to coldwater streams that can support trout year-round.

- TERRY FINGER

PROPOSED TROUT FISHING REGULATIONS PUBLISHED IN MISSOURI REGISTER

MDC's long-awaited reg changes were recently published in the Missouri Register (July 15, 2003 - Volume 28, Number 14 Page 1279):

- (A) Natural and scented bait — Any substance designed to attract fish by taste or smell. This includes : natural fish food such as a fish, crayfish, frog, grub, insect, larva, worm, fish egg, or other animal or plant item permitted as bait; change, corn and other food substances; dough bait putty or paste-type bait; and any fly, lure or bait (including plastic) containing or used with such substances. Natural and scented baits shall not contain any ingredients that stupefy, injure or kill fish.
- (B) Soft plastic bait (unscented) — A synthetic egg, worm, grub or other soft plastic lure without an attached spinner.
- (C) Fly — A lure constructed of any material (excluding soft plastic bait and natural and scented bait as defined in (A) or (B) above) that is tied, glued or otherwise permanently attached to a single-point hook, with or without spinner.
- (D) Artificial lure — A lure not meeting the definitions in (A), (B), or (C) above.

The proposed regs can also be viewed on the Missouri Secretary of State's Web site at www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/moreg/current/2003/v28n14/v28n14b.pdf (To view the regs, it is necessary to page down several times to reach page 1279.) The public has until August 15 to send comments to John Smith, Deputy Director, Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102.

THE OZARK FLY FISHERS NOW USING A WEB-BASED NEWSLETTER

As reported in the June newsletter, changing this newsletter to a digital format in the future could result in substantial savings for our chapter. As a result, we are currently going through the process of evaluating our options.

Our friends in the St. Louis chapter of the Federation of Fly Fishers recently went through this same process. As a result, their members are now kept abreast of chapter news through a Web-based newsletter. This newsletter is produced every month through the joint efforts of Wallis Warren, newsletter editor, and Brian Ellis, Webmaster.

As Wallis and Brian explain it to me, here is how they produce a newsletter:

1. Wallis writes and constructs the newsletter
2. Wallis e-mails it to Brian as a Word document
3. Brian converts it to PDF format
4. Brian e-mails the PDF to their printer/distributor
5. Brian uploads the PDF to their Web site
6. Brian e-mails their membership chair that the newsletter is available on their Web site
7. Their membership chair e-mails all members that the newsletter is available

Their members can then either read or print out the newsletter by visiting the chapter's Web site at www.ozarkflyfishers.org.

This is a very efficient way to distribute a newsletter. Trout Unlimited's own national newsletter, "Lines to Leaders" is currently available in a similar PDF format on www.tu.org. To read a PDF, it is necessary for you to have Acrobat Reader on your computer. Acrobat Reader is a free download that is available by going to www.adobe.com. National T.U.'s Web site has an icon on it that will take you directly to Adobe's Web site.

If our Trout Unlimited chapter decides to go with this format for our own newsletter, it will be important for National T. U. to have your e-mail address on file. Visit www.tu.org to update your personal membership information.



Jeff Tiefenauer and his latest lunker

JEFF TIEFENAUER LANDS BROWN TROUT WEIGHING 16 POUNDS 15 OUNCES

Jeff Tiefenauer is an expert railroad engineer who knows what it takes to stop a train. On July 16th, he called on every bit of his train-stopping experience to help him with a different kind of train. This train was a huge brown trout that he tied into with his Powell 7-ft. 4-wt. fly rod at Bennett Spring State Park.

Jeff, of Desloge, Missouri, is a long-time member of Trout Unlimited and loves to fish for big trout. Although he has caught numerous lunkers in the past, this was his biggest one yet. He caught it on a size 16 Dave's Red Fox Squirrel-Hair Nymph while using 2-pound P-Line Floroclear tippet. The fish weighed an amazing 16 lbs. 15 ounces.

Congratulations, Jeff!

MMTU CALENDAR

August 5, 2003, 7:30 p.m. Jeff Bridges will present a program on first aid.

September 9, 2003, 7:30 p.m. Dave Murphy will be giving a presentation on the Conservation Federation of Missouri.

October 7, 2003, 7:30 p.m. Kent Campbell of Clearwater Fly Shop will give a presentation on the latest developments in fly fishing tackle.

**Mid-Missouri Chapter
Trout Unlimited
P.O. Box 10025
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
Program:	Bill Lamberson	573-445-6224
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.tu.org
www.agron.missouri.edu/flyfishing/mmtu.html
E-mail: washabaugh@mchsi.com
