



Cross Currents

February 2011

November Meeting at D Rowes

February 1, 2011

7:00 pm

Diana Papoulias

“Intersex Bass”

Diana Papoulias is a Research Fish Biologist with 22 years at the US Geological Survey's Columbia Environmental Research Center (CERC). She began her career in fish biology working in fish culture in the United States and in Mexico. Dr. Papoulias later got a master's degree at Arizona State University and worked on native endangered Colorado River fishes, specifically larval fish ecology. She received her Ph.D in 2001 at MU for her research at CERC that focuses on the effects of environmental stressors, particularly endocrine disrupting chemicals, on fish reproduction.

Dr. Papoulias will be presenting about her research on the occurrence of intersex in fish populations and the potential causes.

President's Corner

The following is the outcome of our discussion last meeting regarding the Hinkson Creek issues facing the City of Columbia.

“To The Honorable Mayor Bob McDavid:

We, as representatives of the 300+ member of the Mid Missouri Chapter

of Trout Unlimited, write to express concern regarding the City Council's vote to oppose Hinkson Creek stormwater limitations proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency. While we recognize that control of increased stormwater runoff that has resulted from development within Columbia would result in considerable expense to the City of Columbia, Boone County, and the University of Missouri, we believe taking a stance of simply opposing the plan is likely to only delay implementation of controls, while simultaneously adding legal costs as a result of inevitable lawsuits. At the same time, citizen enjoyment suffers from the environmental degradation caused by sediment and pollutants carried into the Hinkson Creek by stormwater runoff. Rather than simply opposing the EPA regulations, we encourage the City and other entities affected by these regulations to be proactive in proposing a plan to mitigate stormwater runoff and the associated water pollution. Hinkson Creek is a gem of the city. The abundant undeveloped public

land bordering the creek and its trail system makes it a joy for use by walkers, birdwatchers, and anglers. Unfortunately, that gem is significantly tarnished during runoff events that can result from even moderate rainfall. We encourage you and other members of the Council to reconsider this issue and move proactively toward improving the quality of Hinkson Creek.

Respectfully yours,

Michael Riley
President

Bill Lamberson
Director of Conservancy

Upcoming Programs and Events:

February 1, 2011: Diana Papoulias – “Intersex Bass”

Upcoming Conservation Banquet: Friday, Feb 18th, 2011 at Stoney Creek Inn. If you would like to help, contact Michael Riley at rileym@missouri.edu

March 1, 2011: Mayor McDavid will speak to us about the Hinkson Creek and how the EPA mandate affects the City of Columbia

Banquet Tickets: Contact Bill Lamberson at lambersonw@missouri.edu or 573-356-4366 for tickets. Tickets are \$30 before Feb 7th, \$40 at the door. Invite your colleagues and friends to attend.

**Banquet is Friday, Feb 18th 2011
5:30 at Stoney Creek Inn,
Columbia.**

A menagerie of fly fishing essentials and accessories will be available, along with art work and other niceties. Auction items will include state of the art fishing rods and reels, bamboo rod, original art, guided trips on NFOW and Eleven Point, lodging at Big Cedar with fishing at Dogwood Canyon, and a grandiose steelhead trip in Michigan. You get the picture, you'll want to be there.

2011 Banquet Preview

By Michael Riley

I sit slumped at my desk staring out the window to watch yet another snow storm event. There's more predicted next week. How many can there be? I really don't mind the snow as long as my snow blower keeps up. But the cold, yes the cold, seems to make it intolerable. Hate to think I might be acclimating to it. I feel the walls slowly beginning to crush me, why am I getting depressed? Then it dawns on me, the weather is spoiling my opportunities to fish. When did I go fishing last? I couldn't rightly recall. I just have to make up for it this spring and summer, I mean really make up for it just to hit my yearly average. Actually, I want it to be my personal best. I need to start planning now. Then a spark jumped through my brain. The conservation banquet sponsored by Mid-Missouri Trout Unlimited always has guided fishing trips. But where should I go: Missouri, Colorado, Michigan? Holy buckets! I can do all three, they have them all. Alas Christmas came early. There's hope for me yet.

If you feel like I do, come, come to MMTU Conservation Banquet. Where the walls are far apart, the company warm, and the opportunities to get a head start on the 2011 season abound. To whet your appetite, tentative verbal auction items are listed below:

1. SA Sharkskin WF-7-Flyline
2. Fish, don't fry, Costa sunglass-580 lens, Dr Shade hat, sunshirt and sunscreen
3. Michigan Steelhead trip - 3 days for two on Muskegon River in early April
4. Framed Picture Paul Heine original Art
5. Lamberson bamboo rod, minimum bid \$700 or we will card raffle for \$20 or \$50 for 3
6. Colorado guide trip for two for 2 days
7. Bronze Sculpture "Evening Hatch"
8. Big Cedar Lodge 2 nights (Suite sleeps 4 adults and includes kitchenette) with half day at Dogwood Canyon for two
9. Sage 590-4 TCX 9' 5wt fast, with tube and guarantee
10. Sage 3850CF reel, 5/6wt lines with sealed graphite drag and etched TU logo
11. North Fork of the White trip for two, guide Brian Wise
12. Casting Lessons with Gary Eaton and Jeff Trigg
13. Hook's Flies
14. Winter Smallie trip for two on Eleven Point, guide Brian Sloss
15. Fly tying desk
16. Grasshopper & Irish Whiskey Pies

And there's more. See you there.

Useless training aids - Royal Wulff Wristlok, Ross Perfect Cast, & other wrist-splints.

As a Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) Master Casting Instructor, I have seen these things come and go. Fundamentally, they only present *potential* value for about

five practice casts, and NEVER while fishing.

Continued use interferes with developing the neuro-muscular control to adapt to casting situations. One might invoke the most negative connotations of the term "crutch" in seeing the way inexperienced instructors sometimes apply them. Controlling the amount and timing of wrist rotation may be the most essential skill of versatile casting. Some people would like to rely on (or blame) a device for failing, when the fact remains that it is *they* who failed to develop the discipline and then skill.

Whether leather and expensive or simply tucking the rod butt into long sleeve shirts, the result is adequate, the risk is omnipresent. Plus, one could tie a square knot in a Bungee-cord and save a lot of money to then apply to proper casting instruction. (Speaking of casting lessons - FFF Certified Casting Instructor, Jeff Trigg and I will be donating high-quality casting instruction at the TU Banquet on February 18th, 2011)

In a charity class I taught, we took scissors to a Velcro-close, neoprene gravel guard and made four "wrist controllers" out of one. Average price per device was a lot less than you'll pay for commercially marketed versions.

My casting instruction, alone, will not improve your fly casting; ***practicing well & often***, that which you have learned, is required. - **Gary Eaton, MCCI for instruction contact**
doubledok@gmail.com

Mid-Missouri Trout Unlimited
4625 E. Raccoon Ridge Dr.
Columbia, MO 65201

Mid-Missouri TU Chapter Officers for 2010-2012

President	Michael Riley	573-817-0631
Past President	Dean Rapp	573-268-5050
Vice-president	Lynn Kleopfer	573-447-1168
Secretary	John Wenzlick	
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Membership	Jim Washabaugh	573-893-3807
Web Editor		
Member-at-large	open	
Banquet	Michael Riley	573-817-0631
Resource	open	
Program	Scott Gerlt	573-875-2033
Conservancy	Sam Potter	
	Bill Lamberson	
Newsletter Editor	Denis Hancock	573-442-3670 (home) 573-999-3848 (cell)

Cross Currents, the Mid-Missouri Chapter of Trout Unlimited newsletter, has a circulation of approximately 300. Regular chapter meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month, except for July and August. The regular meeting place is back room in D'Rowe's, located off Forum, just north of the intersection with Nifong, in Columbia, MO. June meeting is at Bethel Park. Meeting time is at 7p.m., but come early to chat and eat. Board meeting before hand.

Internet: www.tu.org
www.midmotu.org
Email: rileym@missouri.edu
Newsletter: hancock.denis@gmail.com

One of our significant costs is printing and mailing this newsletter. If you are willing to accept it by email, more of MMTU monies can be spent on conservation. Just send your email to rileym@missouri.edu to make the switch.