



# Cross Currents

January 2013

## Regular Meeting for January 8th

Ryan Verkamp, fishing guide from Alaska will present the program

## Upcoming Programs and Events:

NOTE: As of January 3, 2012 we will be meeting at the Wine Room at Jack's Gourmet Restaurant. Dinner and conversation are at 6:00pm, followed by the meeting at 7:00pm. Jack's Gourmet Restaurant is on East Business Loop I-70 (across from east side Westlake's Hardware)

Nominations are being accepted for the Nello Donati Memorial Award and the Conservationist of the Year Award. Submit to Michael Riley at [573-817-0631](tel:573-817-0631) or [rileym@missouri.edu](mailto:rileym@missouri.edu).

**Tuesday Jan 8<sup>th</sup> 7pm**, regular meeting at Jack's Gourmet. Ryan Verkamp, guide, Fishing in Alaska.

**Tuesday Feb 5<sup>th</sup> 7pm**, regular meeting at Jack's Gourmet. Jeff Witten and Michael Riley on Fishing Opportunities at Goodnews Alaska.

**Friday, Feb 8<sup>th</sup> 5:30**. Conservation Banquet at Stoney Creek Inn. Tickets are \$30 until Jan 31<sup>st</sup>. If you want tickets to sale or just need ticket, contact Michael

Riley at 573-817-0631 or [rileym@missouri.edu](mailto:rileym@missouri.edu).

**Feb. 15-17, 2013:** Mid South Regional Meeting in Sattler, Texas. Contact Michael Riley ASAP if interested.

**Saturday, March 9, 2012** special meeting national speaker George Daniel, head coach for Fly Fishing Team USA, fly fishing master and author.

Dean Rapp is taking donations for the **Jerry L Case Memorial**. Make checks payable to: **MCHF** with Case Memorial in the Memo Field. Contact Dean at 573-268-5050 or [Dean.Rapp@gmail.com](mailto:Dean.Rapp@gmail.com).

## CASTING CORNER

by Gary Eaton, FFF Master Casting Instructor

**LINE AND GEAR MANAGEMENT FOR WINTER FISHERIES - SOS = SAVE OUR STRANDS!**

**STRIPPING BASKET** - Stillwater casting usually involves grounds that show lots of bare soil, trash, rocks, brush, weeds, and the line-damaging soles of angler's boots. The simplest answer is the institution of a stripping basket to place line into as the cast is retrieved. I have two of them. The compact zippered foam version offers too small (12"x 12") a target for me. I prefer a larger target of belt-style, mesh basket covering about twelve-

inch front-to-back and almost twenty-inches of waist contour width.

### **SINK-TIP LINE & LEADER CHANGES -**

Eventually, the weird behavior of aquaculture trout in an unnatural aqua-sphere mandates streamer tactics and streamer flies. The value of sink-tip lines cannot be overstated. The fly stays at a more consistent depth during retrieve; brisker retrieve strokes create stronger sound and visual impact without compromising running depth. Sink-tip line also shoots aggressively, especially in wind, due to high mass and low profile. If you forget the stripping basket, the sinking line being a little scuffed-up imparts little performance compromise. I use Scientific Anglers® Streamer Express® line and a shorter, thicker leader; 4-feet of 4X. Expensive fluorocarbon offers no value in the stained water and low-light conditions of this fishery, especially with flies in-motion.

### **FROZEN GUIDES, REELS, AND FINGERS –**

Just before ice-over, the bite may be on, but ice on metal parts increases the aggravation factor while prolonging angler heat-loss. While there is no magical preventative, the use of wax on the metal guides *the night before* fishing in the warmth of the home delays the icing effect. Fingerless gloves allow line feel without as much heat loss. The gloves should definitely be made of natural wool to retain insulation value when wet. Reels often freeze-up in the coldest weather, especially in windy conditions. Using a stripping basket may prevent water entering the spool and help one avoid reels freezing-up. A coat of wax could make de-icing easier.

### **LOOSEN ROD FERRULES WHEN YOU**

**FINISH –** While fishing in high-altitude in late October, I left my rod strung-up in the car from mid-day sixty-degree temperatures and through sub-freezing nights. When I went to breakdown my rod, it was hopelessly stuck. All methods to loosen it, including an ice-pack wrap failed. I dreaded the costs and inconvenience of shipping the rod across the continent for repair work just to separate two sections. My solution came in rising before dawn and going outside to attack the problem

at ambient temperatures below twenty degrees. Plop, it came apart with ease and I *immediately* waxed the ferrule. So, wax the ferrules, loosen when fishing ends, store with no compression on the rod, and plan to cool the ferrule below the lowest exposed temperature to release.

**BARBLESS FLIES –** This remains a catch-and-release fishery for the first three months. Barbless flies contribute to uncomplicated release and fish survival. Also, when casting weighted line-fly combinations in the “social” crowding of *the only game in town* increases risk of hooks accidentally penetrating non-fish targets. Go barbless, it will set you free!  
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My instruction, alone, will not improve your fly casting; *practicing well & often*, that which you have learned, is required. - **Gary Eaton, FFF Master Certified Casting Instructor**  
doubledok@gmail.com

### **A Note From a Proud Father**

I took my son, Saxton Lockwood, to Bethel Lake on Sunday for a little trout fishing. We were only there a few minutes when he caught this trout.



He released it immediately and is still bragging that the one I caught was much smaller. I wanted to thank the Mid MO chapter with their involvement in stocking the trout during the winter. It made Saxton's day.

By Brian Lockwood

## 2012 Photocontest Winner

Milton Barr is this year's winner of our Photo Contest with this picture of a unknown flycaster at Bennett Springs.



## November Bamboo Workshop

At the bamboo workshop in November we learned the essential steps in building a bamboo rod blank. Bill Lamberson discussed cane selecting and demonstrated binding of cane sections. Ron Barch demonstrated cane splitting, planing, and explained how tappers are modified using an adjustable planing form. We also cast a variety of bamboo tappers.



Ron Barch planing cane using an adjustable planing form.



Bill Lamberson binding some cane

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## Mid-Missouri TU Chapter Officers for 2012-2014

President	Michael Riley	573-817-0631
Past President	Dean Rapp	573-268-5050
Vice-president	Scott Gerlt	573-875-2033
Secretary	Tony Warren	
Treasurer	John Meyer	
Membership	Jim Washabaugh	573-893-3807
Web Editor		
Member-at-large	<b>open</b>	
Banquet	John Wenzlick	573-817-0631
Resource	<b>open</b>	
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 the Wine Room at Jack's Gourmet Restaurant, located on East Business Loop I-70 across from the east side Westlakes Hardware 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.*

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