

Mid-Missouri Trout Unlimited
<http://www.midmotu.org/>



Cross Currents

March 2013

Special Meeting for March

National Speaker George Daniel

Upcoming Programs and Events:

Saturday, March 9th, 9am to noon. Special meeting with national speaker **George Daniel**, head coach for Fly Fishing Team USA, fly fishing master and author, will talk about Dynamic Nymphing at the new Conservation Research Center on 3500 E Gans Road, Columbia, MO. Open to the public. His bio is below.

Thursday, March 7th Stream Team Survey of the **Little Piney**. Leave at 7:30 from the New Haven / Hwy 63 commuter lot. Bring your own snacks, beverages, and rod. Contact Michael Riley at rileym@missouri.edu if interested.

Tuesday April 2nd, 7pm. Regular meeting at Jack's Gourmet. **Greg Hatten**, Oregon Outfitter & Guide, will present on "Oregon Rivers, Drift Boats, and Steelhead," three things he is passionate about. The "context" for the region is set by discussing the "rivers", which are pretty big water with lots of rapids and big waves that flow as tributaries into bigger rivers and/or the Pacific Ocean. His talk will then turn to the boats that evolved in the 40's and 50's to run those kinds of rivers and provide fishermen with a stable platform to fish from - the McKenzie Style Drift Boat. Last, and most fun, he'll talk about the Steelhead of the Pacific - which are pretty unique and crazy fish to pursue on a fly. Most fly anglers consider it one of the most challenging fresh water game fish to catch on a fly & Greg would totally agree with that. His boat and other fly fishing equipment will be on display. Check out some of his clips at <http://www.thewoodenboatadventures.com/>

Saturday April 20th. Introductory Level Water Quality Monitoring Workshop in Columbia (Stream Team), register by April 3rd. Find out about Missouri bugs that trout eat.

Saturday April 6, 1pm Fly Fishing Film Tour comes to **RagTag Theater** in Columbia, doors open at noon. Over a dozen inspiring fly fishing clips will be shown; trailers can be viewed at www.thef3t.com. Lots of merchandize given away at the tour! Advance tickets (\$15) can be purchased from Scott Gerlt, Jeff Trigg or online at www.thef3t.com.

Tuesday May 7th, 7pm. Regular meeting at Jack's Gourmet. Bob Sappington on "West Slope Cutthroats, Cheap and Easy"; the Coeur D'Alene River in Idaho

Banquet Update

I'm very proud to say I was part of another successful Mid-MO TU banquet. It always amazes me the number of people it takes to make these banquets a success. I want to personally thank all who assisted in the planning, those that donated items and those that opened their wallets and bid on the items available for auction.

It has been over 20 years since I first attended a Mid-MO TU Banquet. In some years my only participation has been enjoying good conversation and bidding up items. In recent years I've been honored to be your MC. The one thing I know for sure is we can always use more help.

Each year we have a core group that represents the Banquet committee. The size of this core group has diminished over time but their efforts have not. The core group meets regularly, reviews suggestions from members, schedules the venue, plans the meal, acquires the auctioneer etc. etc. Anyone and everyone is encouraged to become part of this core group.

To help with the banquet does not necessarily mean, though, that you need to be part of the core

group. I know your time is valuable and anything you can do to assist us will be appreciated. Here are a few things you might consider to help out:

- * Do you have a restaurant or venue you attend regularly, ask them to donate a gift certificate.
 - * Volunteer to run one of the raffles, silent auction or other activities the night of the banquet. There are several areas that may take you away from the banquet for only a few minutes but that will help others focus on their tasks.
 - * Do you have good computer skills, want to help design/print the tickets.
 - * Can you tie flies, build fly rods, paint pictures, sew, etc. We would be honored to have your craft or skill featured as one of our auction items.
 - * And anything else that you think might be helpful...
- Until Next Year!

Your Honored MC... Dean Rapp

George Daniel on Dynamic Nymphing

George Daniel will present a seminars on his book **Dynamic Nymphing on Saturday, March 9th, 2013, a special meeting from 9 to noon** at the new Conservation Research Center on 3500 E Gans Road, Columbia, MO. Here's his bio.



George Daniel began fly fishing at age 6 while growing up in Potter County, PA and credits Joe Humphreys for the bulk of his knowledge along with many national and international fly fishing professionals.

George is a two-time US National Fly Fishing Champion and a former member of Fly Fishing Team USA. Currently, he is the head coach for the NC Fly Fishing Team and is employed by the TCO State College Fly Shop.

George's passion is in fly fishing education, where he conducts lectures/seminars throughout the country. He logs over 200 days a year on trout waters near and far. George is the author of the best-selling book, "Dynamic Nymphing" along with being published in Fly Fisherman and Fly Tyer magazines. George currently resides in Lamar, PA with his wife, Amidea and their two children along with their two golden retrievers that answer to the names Helios and Madison.

He's pro staffer for a number of fly fishing companies including Simms, Orvis Fly Rods, Scientific Anglers, Smith Optics, Lamson Reels, Loon, and Regal Vises. George is a fly designer for Umpqua Feather Merchants and recently joined the Fly Rod Chronicle's Pro Staff.

CASTING CORNER ©2013 by Gary Eaton, FFF Master Casting Instructor

ROD SELECTION BASICS -

Material

Graphite for sure - Best performance least weight, wide range of action.
Hardy's new SINTRIX rods use silicone nano-matrix technology to more evenly distribute state-of-the-art resins into graphite scrim creating superior strength-to-weight that seem nearly unbreakable in high-powered fish fighting. If going for big fish, evaluate these.

Line Guides

Number of guides/eyes- At *least* 1per foot plus two; include tip (11-guides on 9-ft)
Guides should be bigger at butt and taper in two or three sizes.

Stripping Guide, nearest handle or *butt* should stand-up away from rod.

2 Stripping guides are good but not essential.

Tip: 2 guides should be within 6-inches of each other.

Distance between guides should increase as they move toward thick end.

Guides should give ample opening for fly line - tiny guides are trouble.

Rod line weight- This is an AFTMA standard geared around fly line mass

Usual Freshwater for Ozark rivers is three to 8-weight, best all-around is 6 or 7 wt.

Rule of thumb = line weight +5 is maximum tippet strength in pounds

SO- 7-weight will handle 12-pound tippet without breaking rod.

All rods can be up-lined or down-lined by at least one line weight

Increasing line weight will "slow" rod action;

Decreasing will "speed" action.

Reel Seat - Standardized in recent years. Fancy wood inserts cost \$ and have no effect on performance.

Grip or Handle - Standard is cork but closed foam works perfectly well saves \$

Most people will do well to have a pretty good size - like a baseball bat handle or hammer diameter.

Larger diameter reduces fatigue and compensates for weakness, to a point.

COLOR - Some think shiny, or brightly colored rods matter to fish. I have seen good anglers catch big fish in smooth water with shiny yellow and pink rods and bright orange line on sunny days. Drab line color only matters when it sinks as in sink-tip lines.

ACTION -The *stiffness of rod, or resistance to bending; plus any tendency to oscillate.*

A "floppy" rod wiggles close to the handle and is a real pain to learn to cast with.

A "broomstick" rod demands strength & speed to cast & has liabilities roll casting.

A moderate action is best. I would go a little *stiffer* than *slower* for most casters.

Some people say a soft rod will help you prevent "break offs when you set the hook". I say, learn to control your hook set and use the proper leader tippet and you can even fish with a broomstick very successfully.

Soft rods and lower line weights simply will not develop the line speed to fight wind, turnover longer leaders, and they fold-up delivering bigger terminal tackle.

Length - Longer rods provide a slight advantage roll casting and mending.

I recommend starting with 8 to 9-foot length.

Longer rods increase forces on *you!*

WHEN LOOKING FOR A STARTER ROD,
MATCH THESE CRITERIA OR EXPECT A LOT
OF FRUSTRATION LEARNING TO CAST WELL

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

A tip from Dean Rapp

(Dean Rapp has volunteered to provide a tip or two for our newsletter from time to time. If you have a tip you'd like to share with others please let us know, we'll be glad to include it in the newsletter. We hope you enjoy this months tip.)

With over 10 inches of snow outside I find it a perfect time to get some flies tied. This morning my goal was to imitate a small worm I've seen at Bennett Spring. I love picking up a rock or two and seeing what lives under water. This little worm is similar in color to the earth worm color you'll find on Ultra Chenille at your local fly shop. I decided to tie the fly on a Tiemco 200R size 14 hook and my only two materials would be thread and Glisson Gloss 506 floss. I tied one strand of the floss to the hook from the head all the way back to the bend. I then wrapped the thread forward being sure to leave no gaps. The thread color was the old Orvis Celery which I don't believe they make anymore. I've hoarded a stash of that thread, it is one of my favorite thread colors. I then wrap the floss forward with essentially no gaps. If you are wondering why I left no thread gaps with thread and no gaps with the floss it is because I believe the thread still shows through between the wrappings of floss it is just not visible to the naked eye. If trout can see a size 28 hook I'm sure they can see those gaps and the color of thread shining through. After finishing the fly I dipped it in some water to see how the color turned out and no real surprise to me the fly was too dark. Or at least too dark for what I was trying to imitate. A lesson I learned a long time ago is that a material that appears to be the correct color in the package may not be the correct color once under water. If you are trying to match the hatch regardless of using store bought flies or hand tied flies it is important to remember that most flies will darken in color once they get wet. I've since tied this same pattern with J&P Coates floss 3008 and it appears to be the exact color (wet) that I was going for. We'll see if the trout agree

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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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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.