



Mid-Missouri Trout Unlimited

<http://midmissouri.tu.org/>

Cross Currents

February 2015

**MID-MISSOURI TROUT UNLIMITED BANQUET
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2015
STONE CREEK INN
2601 S PROVIDENCE RD
COLUMBIA, MO
573-442-6400**

Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

For banquet tickets contact Ryan Verkamp at ryan.verkamp@gmail.com or call 573-201-7044. If you want to donate an item or volunteer time at the banquet contact Curt Morgret at cmorgret@gmail.com or call 573-446-4776.

FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

Monthly meeting of MMTU at Jack's Gourmet Restaurant, Columbia, MO.

Feb. 3, 7:00 p.m. Greg Hatten: Wooden Boats

March 3, 7:00 p.m. MMTU Meeting – Preston Larimer - Fishing the Arkansas River in Colorado.

March 7 - Trout Unlimited Mid-South Regional Meeting, Branson, MO.

Lodging: Chateau on the Lake – 888-333-5253. \$129/night. Ask for TU discount rate.

Registration: \$35 includes:

.All seminars & workshops on Saturday

.Breakfast & lunch on Saturday

.Barbecue dinner Saturday night

Arrive March 6 for an optional day of fishing.

President's Corner by Scott Gerlt

It's banquet time! The upcoming fundraising festivity is the highlight of the year for our chapter. It allows us to help support coldwater conservation while also having a great social event. A lot of work goes into it, so please be sure to thank those on the committee.

Also upcoming is Trout Fest at Bennett Spring State Park during the free fishing weekend in June. We will be looking for volunteers to help with various activities at the event. Different needs include helping people fish and manning a MMTU booth. This will be a great opportunity to promote our club to a wider audience.

Hope to see everyone at the banquet!

Scott

Auction Items Available at the Trout Unlimited Banquet, Friday, February 20, 2015:

- Colorado Fishing Trip – 2 people, 3 days
- Bob Hook Flies – 60 flies, stimulators, hoppers, etc.
- Bob Hook Flies – 72 flies, crackelbacks, etc.
- Leather Portfolio by Dave Megahan
- Meyer Pies/Single Barrel Whisky
- Michigan Cast & Blast Trip – Salmon & Woodcock
- Missouri Day Trip with Mike Kruse
- Paul Heine Artwork
- Shadow Box Flies – 30 flies to commemorate MMTU 30th Anniversary
- Spring Turkey Hunt – Kansas Flint Hills

- TFO Fly Rod – 9", 5 wt., 4 pc
- Terry Redland artwork
- West Plains Fishing Trip – 2 days guided, lodging, dinners
- Fine Wine
- Wyoming Fishing Trip - 5 days/4 nights, early August with Norm Crisp
- Bamboo Fly Rod built by & donated by Bill Lamberson, 7 1/2", 5 wt.

(Additional items may be available by auction time.)

Also to be (Silent) Auctioned:

A Botox treatment and a UV Protective Kit (hat/buff/ sunscreen) donated by Dr. John Despain.



Mid-Missouri Trout Unlimited Plate – 1997

The above photo represents the fly plate created and auctioned in 1997 to celebrate the 12th year of Mid-Missouri Trout Unlimited. The names of the contributors are fastened to the back of the plate From left to right: top row – Denis Hancock, Terry Finger, Tom Fiegler, Jerry Griffin; middle row – Mike Kruse, Curt Morgret, Jeff Bridges, Joe LaMarre; bottom row – Bob Hook, Curt Morgert, Bob Hook, Mike Kruse.

Not Your Ordinary Float Trip by Bill Lamberson (continued) Fishing the Horton Canyons

Fishing picked up in the canyons, and grayling fishing continued to be great. We caught several nice lake trout that became dinner, including one shown below. One particular pool was filled with grayling and

northerns, the only northerns we saw on the trip. The northerns figured out that we landed grayling in a particular spot and they lurked inches off the bank. I would not have wanted to wave my fingers in the water. One struck hard at the tip of my fly rod, but evidently missed.

We also tried one meal of grayling, sometimes referred to as Arctic hotdogs up north. They were great – superior to the lake trout in my opinion. Four of us put away five 17 inchers that meal, and yet we lost 10 – 15 pounds each on the trip.

One of the highlights was a hike to the top of the surrounding hills to view this pair of musk oxen and an accompanying cow. It was quite a hike up the hills to them, but they let us within 40 feet. The female was in heat, which was a treat given my professional interest in livestock reproduction. After taking many photos we headed back down the hill, only to find that I had left my binoculars somewhere along the way. I wasn't optimistic trudging back up the hill, but the 1½ mile hike (each way) was worthwhile when I found them.

From that point on the water began to get silty from melting permafrost glop dropping into the river. Fishing was never as good after that, although Tom hooked a very nice Arctic Char, which unfortunately threw the hook as he was beaching it. It was the only char we hooked.

The last days were a struggle against strong winds blowing off the ocean, often 30 – 35 mph. We soon entered the Smoking Hills, a unique geological formation that has a combination of sulfur, magnesium and coal that smolders when exposed to the air. During calm mornings the air was heavy with a haze that reminded us of black powder smoke. It was eerie how footprints would smoke after one walked across broken ground.

As we neared the lower end of the river it looped in great S-curves. One loop came quite close to the ocean so we decided to hike over after finishing our paddling for the day. What looked like a short hop turned into a long hike when hill after hill only revealed another hill. Eventually we were successful and Tom took a

quick dip in the very cold ocean. It was nearly 1 a.m. by the time we returned to camp, an impressive effort on the part of all.

Another day of canoeing took us to the pickup point at the mouth of the Horton. The plane arrived on time, backed up to the bank, and the pilot rolled out two 55 gallon drums of fuel to supply the plane for the 325 mile trip back to Norman Wells. A giant dinner was spread for our return and the next day we boarded planes for home. All in all, it was quite an adventure, more than we bargained for at some points, but not so much that we are discouraged from planning our next trip up north.

Fishing picked up in the canyons, and grayling fishing continued to be great. We caught several nice lake trout that became dinner, including one shown below. One particular pool was filled with grayling and northern, the only northern we saw on the trip. The northern figured out that we landed grayling in a particular spot and they lurked inches off the bank. I would not have wanted to wave my fingers in the water. One struck hard at the tip of my fly rod, but evidently missed. We also tried one meal of grayling, sometimes referred to as Arctic hotdogs up north. They were great – superior to the lake trout in my opinion. Four of us put away five 17 inchers that meal, and yet we lost 10 – 15 pounds each on the trip.



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Mid-Missouri Trout Unlimited meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month, except for July and August. The regular meeting place is in the Wine Room at Jack's Gourmet Restaurant, located on East Business Loop 170, across from the east tide Westlakes Hardware in Columbia, MO. June meeting is at Stephens Park. Meeting time is at 7p.m., but come early to chat and eat. Short business meeting beforehand.

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.