



River Rap

Roubidoux Fly Fishers Association

April 2011

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

2011 Outing and Programs

7 May _11 Sat Lake Rinquelin at Rinquelin Trail Community Lake

15 May _11 Sun Mill Creek at Bohigian CA

4 Jun _11 Sat Current River at Baptist Camp Access

12 Jun _11 Sun Bourbeause River at Tea Access

9 July _11 Sat Huzzah Creek at Huzzah CA

17 July _11 Sun Tavern Creek at Wilson Camp Access

6 Aug _11 Sat Roubidoux Creek

14 Aug _11 Sun Roubidoux Creek

3 Sept _11 Sat Big Piney at Dog's Bluff Access

18 Sept _11 Sun Meramec River location TBA

8 Oct _11 Sat Little Piney at Milldam Hollow

16 Oct _11 Sun Maries River at Dr. Bernard Bruns Access

19 Nov _11 Sat Freeze Your Trout Off in Bennett Springs

3 Dec _11 Sat Montauk State Park meet at lodge/store

18 Dec _11 Sun Meramec Spring Park meet in farthest parking lot

7 Jan 2012 Sat Bennett Springs meet at spring

15 Jan 2012 Sun Montauk State Park meet at lodge/store

4 Feb 2012 Sat Meramec Spring

28 Feb 2012 Sun Niangua River at



Park meet in farthest parking lot

Bennett Springs Access

Streamside News and Fishing Reports

[Send your fishing reports to Max]

Well, folks, it's done (almost). On April 18th Ye Ed completed the **Missouri Wild Trout Adventure** with the capture and release of seven little rainbows just below Lane Spring on the Little Piney. To be truthful (gasp!) all the fish taken for this quest were parr. That's a good thing—first, it shows that Mom and Dad rainbows are doing the nasty and doing it effectively. Second, at least on the Little Piney, one of the requirements is that the fish must be under eight inches to prove that it's not an undocumented migrant worker from some downstream stocking. By the way, that stipulation also holds true for the Eleven Point. That brings me to the —almost|| part. Ye Ed had strong hopes of being the first to earn the Wild Trout Adventure certificate, but alas, he was beaten out by three days by Steve Jenkins of Kansas City (of all places). Congratulation and salutations were sent since Ye Ed is the consummate good sport.... Anyway, this writer is now attempting to become the first to earn the distinction of catching in all eight streams. The next effort will be the Barren Fork, followed by Crane Creek (always tough) and then a couple of days on the Eleven Point.

You might well ask why Ye Ed is pushing this program. It's a darn fine question and it has nothing to do with any rumored kickbacks from Stream Side Adventures. Norm Crisp, the owner, is good guy but he's too cheap to offer paybacks <grin>. Actually, that's not true—Norm has graciously offered a \$100 donation to the conservation charity of choice for the first to earn the Wild Trout certificate. The real reason is that it's a darn fine idea. It points up the value of one of Missouri's terrific natural resources, it espouses catch-and-release, it teaches something about natural history (the early stockings), and it leads some of us to broaden our horizons. In Ye Ed's case, it shrank the horizon and opened his eyes. Perhaps it will do the same for you. He has spent so much fishing time searching the distant and mildly exotic that he's forgotten our local gems. Oh, yeah, he'll fish Mill Creek occasionally, maybe hit the Roubidoux about once a year, but it's been about two years since he last fished Spring Creek, at least eighteen years since he was on the Little Piney which he'd only fished once (!) before, and he had never even been on Blue Springs Creek. Nor has he ever fished the Barren Fork or the Eleven Point. The North Fork of the White has been a different story—that river is heaven in a bucket and has long been part of his repertoire.

The moral of the story is twofold: if you're locked in to Mill Creek or Blue's Lake or the Rubber Duck, stretch your fishing legs a little. This challenge is a good reason to do it. If you're overstretched like Ye Ed, tuck back in and relish the beauty and bounty within a day trip. Heck, with a little luck and a good map you could do the informal —RFFA Challenge|| and hit all four (Roubidoux , Spring, Mill, and the Little Piney) in one day. Maybe the Club should offer a certificate for that!

Then there was the two days spent with Reel Recovery at Rockbridge. On the last morning Ye Ed fished streamers while all others blindly followed local custom and fished midges. Long story short: caught a good 17-20|| fish on one of each type of streamer in his box. The jewel in the crown was catching a very nice fish on a Mylar Zonker Minnow tied by Chuck. He specifically had some photos taken with the fly and fish to send to Holly. Reel Recovery has not yet issued the —all photos|| CD but it should come in soon. We all know the tale that Chuck was banned from catch-and-keep-for-a-price Rockbridge for conveniently loose-ing' too many fish through judicious bad line handling. He never confirmed that rumor, but he never denied it either.

And now for something completely different— Bill Blunt's report: —Went to Westover Farms and fished on Monday. Water was up, stained and looked good. I just knew an olive leech would be a winner, well not for me. Fishing was really slow for everyone I talked to and I fished for a couple hours before I closed the deal on a couple little 12 inch fish. I finally hooked up on a couple nice fish but they had other ideas and came up and flipped me the fin". Later in the day Craig Stevens and I went up to the God Rocks section and he landed a couple of nice fish, one about 15 inches. My turn to give it a try and after a couple drifts through the swift water this guy came out of no where and took the green zebra midge I had under a huge elk hair caddis. Took every bit of five minutes to get him in so Craig could net it for me. As soon as I had it on he told me it was a Steelhead by the way it was fighting. Came out of the water about 2 feet, well it seemed like it anyway. If I had been by myself I would never have known it was a Steelhead, I just thought it was a really angry Rainbow.||



And earlier Bill sent this: —Went fishing today and got lucky,. Landed one 18 1/2 inch and another 15 1/2 inch and several 10 to 12 inchers. Water up a bit and stained but fishing was great. Had to give up around noon because of the wind and my poor old tired body fighting the current heading upstream. --Bill



We had a real good turnout for our club outing to Scioto Lake, but I think someone told the fish we were coming. It was sssllloooowww to say the least. But the highlight was seeing Brooke, Dave & Leona's granddaughter, trying her luck with the fly rod Leona built for her years ago at our rod building class. Needless to say there were not a whole lot of whoops or hollers of folks catching fish, but the splash of a returned fish happened just often enough to keep us out there in spite of the cold. After the sun came out in the afternoon things picked up some, but me thinks the lake warrants a return in May



It is something special when we pass on our love of fly fishing to others, especially when it's a grandmother passing it on to her granddaughter!

Project Healing Waters tying class. There have been four classes for four participants. The guys even asked for another session so today I'm dragging in some hair and tinsel and we're going to try Mickey Finns. We've begun advertising for persons interested in Fly Fishing 101. In total we reported 9 ½ hours of volunteer time and 11 ½ hours of participant time for the quarter.

A personal note: enough with the —Ye Ed|| thing. I've used it as a tribute to Chuck who started this RFFA newsletter, and the use of the third person is a necessary editorial convention. But in all truth I don't feel comfortable using Chuck's byline, even in Chuck's memory. It's not me. What to do? —Your editor|| is a stuffy way to keep within convention. That's not me either...so, somewhat tongue in cheek, and recognizing all the years I've spent around the military, and because somebody keeps sticking it to me any time we have to list an authority figure for official purposes, I'm a-gonna try —Flyrod 6.||

Welcome to Dave Chalk! A new member, Dave has been hanging out in Springfield at Backcountry Outfitters even though he lives and works at the Fort. He's a heck of a tyer—John Richerson has been working with him. Dave is fairly new to the long rod but throws a pretty decent cast and managed seven fish last week on Spring Creek on soft hackles.

Our Good Works

A short while back Lou sent an e-mail discussing flies for Casting for Recovery. In extracted form she wrote,

—For the last few years, since Chuck moved to CA, we have been gathering flies for the CFR retreat here in MO and sending them to Patti....but the enthusiasm for the task has begun to wan....I for one would like to see us carry on with a small project for an organization that became near and dear to Chuck's heart, which is Casting For Recovery.

—I think we should carry on this "tradition" for Chuck's sake, not let it fall by the wayside since his passing.||

—However, I will not do this alone. WE need to carry it on, not I. The last few years I have gathered the flies and sent them out. If anyone else would rather, I'll send you all the info and my baker's dozen flies.||

OK, well said. In fact, Chuck sent his flies to Patti not only for this year's CFR program, but for 2012 as well! —He must have known something,|| Patti's husband told Ye Ed. In line with that, here's a modest proposal. The concept has been bounced off Mark and members of other regional clubs and met with concurrence and enthusiasm. What do we think as a club?

Concept Paper Chuck's daughter Holly donated Chuck Tryon's last club dues (\$100) to the club after his passing. Many of you have heard the story of the check being postmarked the day prior to his passing. It is appropriate that we consider using this money, perhaps in a rotating fund, to do something in Chuck's memory.

Intent: produce an annual Chuck Tryon Memorial Ty-athon. --Open to the public --Stage at a central Missouri location --All flies tied to be donated in Chuck's memory to his favorite charity program, Casting for Recovery, a program for women with breast cancer --If an appropriate number of flies result, the excess might be donated to Reel Recovery, a similar program for men with cancer

Operation: provide table space for all comers --advertise to clubs in Missouri and contiguous States --provide a children's program --provide prizes (e.g., most flies tied, most tied in a hour, most productive woman tyer, youngest tyer without adult help, furthest traveled, etc.) --devise contests (e.g., Blind Bugger tying, smallest Parachute Adams, etc.) --no requirement to stay for entire program (use \$ to ship prizes if needed) --hold in winter to have flies ready for Spring events of given charity programs --no entry fee --the flies donated are sufficient --accept flies tied in advance and brought by participants or shipped in (?) --always provide Holly with an after action report Locations:

--consider the pay-to-play places or trout parks as appropriate locations and as an attractor in addition to other locations

--would it be beneficial to consider doing a joint activity perhaps with the Tri-lakes Expo or Reading's Memorial Day weekend show?

--would Bass Pro put up a tent in their parking lot or other venue?

And the big consideration: do we want to take on something potentially this big?

Meeting notes:

We've had four e-mail enquiries about the club since the new website went online. It's proven to be a worthwhile investment. Thanks for pushing the issue and your hard work, Sam.

There's an attachment to the email (in addition to the newsletter) because Flyrod 6 is too computer incompetent to get it into the newsletter. Be sure to check it out.

Don't forget Charlie Reading's annual **Memorial weekend bash**—tyers, casters, two casting ponds, rod reps with demo rods, give-aways and gimme's galore. More info will come via separate email.

Members attending were Jack, Todd, Lou, Ed LeMay, Bill Blunt, and Flyrod 6. Todd is going to take over running the **Cleanup** this year. Date(s) will be **September 10** with the 17th as weather alternate.

Speaking of the May meeting – we'll have it in the Waynesville City park just like we have in years past – but unless someone wants to volunteer to cook the burgers and brats, we'll do a brown bag dinner (bring your dinner in a brown bag).

Todd will be doing a program on Tenkara fishing, from tying a fly or two to how to set up and use the rod, so we'll be moving to stream side for some of the meeting. (Please don't tell the fish!)

What is tenkara? Tenkara is the traditional Japanese method of fly-fishing where only a rod, line and fly are used. Tenkara originated in the mountain streams of Japan, where professional fishermen used to catch fish for a living. With 11-13 foot long rods and no reel, anglers can very effectively fish mountain streams, with no unnecessary gear. The long rods telescope down to a mere 20 inches and are perfect for those in search of a pure, effective and simpler method of fly-fishing. Suffice it to say it's kind of like dapping with a flip cast, using an extendable rod. Bowing is optional, but take your shoes off when casting indoors....

Also mark your calendars for Tyin' & Lyin' on 3 May and Rinqualin Lake club outing on the 7th.

Rockbridge fish taken by Flyrod 6 on 5' 5wt & # 12 Crackleback ...but this one was on a 5wt



Oh, yummy!





River Rap

Roubidoux Fly Fishers Association
May 2011

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Charlie Reading's annual expo is this Memorial Day weekend. Come tie as a representative of the club, get in on the free raffles, try a bunch of new rods, maybe get some help with the backcast you've been screwing up lately. Charlie has always been a friend to our club—let's support him in return!

Tyin' & Lyin' is on 21 June. What fly tying or fishing for that matter has to do with the summer solstice I have not a clue.



Streamside News and Fishing Reports

[Send your fishing reports to Max]

The May club meeting was a little sparse. Only Todd, Max and Bill Blunt showed up. The weather was just short of unpleasant and the Roubidoux was up and running but that didn't stop Todd from demonstrating the Japanese Tenkara rod, flies and techniques. Verrrry interesting....

Rinquelin Lake –

We had a good turn out for our first of the year outing to Rinquelin Trail Lake in spite of the weather. Max, David, Todd, Lou and a guest angler Sharon from over in Springfield hit the water, hoping to catch the blues (as in bluegill) on the beds. Well we came pretty close, While David and Max hit the dam face pretty hard for largemouth bass, Todd, Sharon and Lou hit the timber on the far side for the bream. Todd even scored a bunch of crappie! All in all, a pretty good days fishing.

Mill Creek

What a great morning on Mill Creek! The clouds threatened rain all morning, but held off till Bill and I were done fishing for the day. A few good hits were all we saw of the big ones, but the par were very cooperative, hitting often, missing even more often. And talk about beautiful I wouldn't want to be the judge in a beauty contest between any bream in spawning colors and a rainbow trout still in par marks. The whopper trout of the day was a 12"! Last fish caught was a good sized chub Bill caught in a fast riffle.

Tightlines!

Lou

<'}}))><

Crane Creek

Fished it last Wednesday and it was pretty tough as usual. Kicked out two smaller but teen-age or adult fish but only landed the usual parr, and only one of those. The working fly was a size ten olive swimming leech. In addition to the parr Flyrod Six had two bumps that he missed in his usual ham-handed fashion. Anyway, that still counts toward his attempt to be the first to “officially” have success on all eight Missouri wild trout streams. Now all that’s left is the Eleven Point....

And now for something completely different--

Our newest member, Dave Chalk, got a nice surprise recently. A benefactor for Project Healing Waters called John Richerson down in Springfield and said he wanted to donate a bamboo rod to an active duty service member. Since Dave was the only one in John’s PHW program Dave got the luck of the draw. He brought his new toy to Flyrod Six’s house for a trial run on the grass. It appears to be a brand new rod from what we think is the Zhu Flyfishing Company of China. The finish is exquisite and it casts like a dream. It appears to be a five weight, but if anybody has a four double taper Dave would like to try it. It came in an aluminum and brass tube, is dressed in a special rod sock (see photo) and has Dave’s name on the bottom section and his initials inscribed on the two tip sections. Gorgeous!!!

Flyrod Six has been working with a British friend who, to control his boredom, ordered a couple of old ‘boo rods off of Ebay as a refinishing project. Then he was given a 1933 Hardy—followed by buying some antique reels off Ebay. One reel is mahogany and brass; the other two are old Hardy’s. Bear in mind that this guy doesn’t even fish....He did a nice job re-wrapping the old sticks, basically learning the technique from a book!

Since Bill Blunt recently managed to get some kind of shady-sounding deal from Tommy Hargrove on a nice bamboo that a couple of us got a chance to waggle at the meeting, all of a sudden Flyrod Six has the ‘boo bug and has been haunting Ebay. It looks like we may have a growing sub-set of grass rod wavers in the club.

They’re here!! As this is being typed out on the back deck the cicadas have started their infernal noise. Get your big black surface flies out and get ‘em wet! *News flash*—the pea-size hail and tornado sirens that just sounded appears to have shut them up, at least temporarily.

Pictures—





Many thanks to Sam Potter. He has renewed the contracts for the website and generously paid for the costs as a donation to the club.



River Rap

*Roubidoux Fly Fishers Association
June 2011*

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

The Stream Team Academy is proud to announce the next Stream Team training workshop, Understanding Streams.



Announcing:

Understanding Streams
Shaw Nature Reserve
Off Hwy 100 at I-44
Gray Summit, MO
July 15-16, 2011 (Friday -Saturday)

This stream management course will cover the interconnected relationship of streams with their floodplains and upper watersheds. We will examine the concept of streams being products of the interactions of water, energy, sediment, and vegetation. We will also discuss how these interactions occur and how everyday decisions made by agencies and landowners affect these interactions. Time will be spent in the classroom, working with a model stream table, and floating the Meramec River to investigate and analyze local stream characteristics.

Lodging and meals will be on your own. Information on local hotels will be sent to all who register.

If you are interested in attending this workshop, please call or email Naomi Gebo, 573-522-4115 ext. 3598 or naomi.gebo@mdc.mo.gov by **July 6, 2011**. Course size will be limited; seats will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. You will receive a letter of confirmation that contains detailed information about the class after you register.



Streamside News and Fishing Reports

[Send your fishing reports to Max]

Seems the cicada frenzy was almost over by the time Todd Sparks made the club outing to the Current River at Baptist Camp on 4 June. They wouldn't hit nary a cicada pattern, but would hit a black wooly worm drifted under the surface. Lou was upstream in the park with some folks from Bustin with a Cure and did alright, but with the usual trout flies - nothing special. Even the mean green sunfish were hitting Cracklebacks in the lake.

The outing to the Bourbouse almost wasn't with all the rain Mother Nature was throwing our way. Todd had noticed a big spike on the depth gauge (on the USGS site) Thursday night causing some concern. Plan B was not called upon though and both Todd and Lou made it.

While keeping one eye on the sky and the other trying to look into the off off colored water, we had some hits and brought to hand a few chunky smallies. Both of us decided a do over a little later in the year when it had cleared some would be better.



Our next outings are 9 July on the Huzzah River at Huzzah Conservation Area, then 17 July on Tavern Creek at Wilson Camp Access. If you need more info, email Lou straight away so she can get the info to you ASAP.

Tightlines!

Lou

<''))><

Recycle - Practice Catch & Release!

For those of you who fish Mill Creek here's an interesting email conversation between Bill Blunt and Flyrod Six:

Subject: Bamboo, Hogs and Rainbow Trout

“Fishing Mill Creek has been an adventure lately! From the upper parking lot I fished up stream to the small bluff and was taking a bit of a break when I heard something coming through the brush. I figured a deer was coming down for a drink but soon learned a few hogs were heading my way! Well this was the first (and the last) time I left my sidearm in the car. They stayed on the other side of the creek and went up the bluff like goats. I had my wading staff/ critter stick with me but sure was nervous for awhile, not knowing if hogs in the woods are aggressive or not. Don't think a 4 wt. would take care of a pig.”

“Bill,

“About two trips (maybe three) back I saw very fresh hog sign while crossing the field from the upper parking lot. I had my .45 on but it was stocked with hollow points. My experience hunting [hogs] in Germany says that HPs won't penetrate--I have a magazine of ball that I load up with in bear country, but on that trip I was more prepared for river pirates than I was for 150 lb potential roast pork on the hoof. And yes, they can be aggressive, especially if the sows have piglets or young pigs with them. You can bet after that time I've chambered the right magazine....

Max”

[So those who insist upon carrying those pisant 9s, take heed! Minimum for pig should be .357 with a hot load....]

Aside from that, Bill sent this picture. Note the classy rod and reel next to the classy fish.



For Sale:

Flyrod Six has his saltwater boat up for sale. It's in the "Lemon Lot" on the fort.

\$3750
or make me an offer I can't refuse

- 19'6" Aquasport 200
- 115 hp saltwater Merc

Dual battery system
VHF marine radio
Lowrance GPS / Sonar
Full Coast Guard package
2 live wells
Rod storage under gunwale
Leaning post seat back
Custom boat cover
Custom console cover
Console seat cushion set
2 downriggers
2 anchors
All lines & fenders
Trolling sockets



573-528-3543

Also, the Old Town Pack canoe is on the auction block—somebody pass the word to Dave Earl! Thirty-five pounds, single seater, Old Town seat backrest, two paddles, and a great lot of fun!