



RiverRap

January 1, 2016

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Jan 5th Fly Tying

Jan 16th Outing to Montauk Park

Jan 19th Club Meeting

Jan 31st Outing to Meramec Park

December Happenings in the RFFA

Here is wishing my fellow fly flingers many large and handsome fish in the coming New Year!!

Here are the January Happenings in the RFFA

Tuesday 5 January 6:00 or so till they close Tyin' & Lyin' at the Rolla Public Library

Saturday 16 January fishing at Montauk – horn goes off at 8:00. Let's meet up around the hatchery and go from there. Don't forget a lunch and your fall in bag! Here's a link - <https://mostateparks.com/park/montauk-state-park>

Tuesday 19 January 6:30 P.M. Regular meeting – Please bring your dues. We'll talk about upcoming events and then have a program.

Sunday 31 January Meramec – horn goes off at 8:00. We usually meet in the far parking lot. Once again please bring your lunch and fall in bag just in case. Here's a link - <http://missouritrout.com/maramec.html>

Also – dues are due!

AND we have a booth at the City of St Robert Sportsman's Show the 19th and 20th of February. If you want to volunteer to help talk about fly fishing, etc., please let me know ASAP. Thanks!

Hope to see you all at everything if you can!

Tightlines!

Louisa Runnalls

Fishing Reports:

Report Presented by Sam

Lou and I had a very good day on the Gasconade River last month. The weather and the fish cooperated nicely. It's always fun when you can fish a stretch of any stream and only see one other fishing boat on the water all day. We both got into some dandy bronzebacks. It was fairly fast catching them when we started, but it slowed down later in the day. The size of the smallmouth we caught were excellent. We had a couple of them that were pushing 17-18 inches and several more in the 14-15 inch range. It's hard to believe that where we were fishing the river would be 25 feet higher in a few weeks. One of the bigger bass we caught had a large Lamprey scar on the top of head.



Club Outing to Bennett Spring



It was an excellent day to fish at Bennett. As you can see we didn't Freeze Our Trout Off. There were guys fishing in short sleeve shirts in the afternoon. The spring branch was receding, but had been up in the trees the previous week. The water was off color and just about perfect for fishing. We fished in various areas during the morning. I had a lot of success down in zone three, figuring that all the high water had pushed trout downstream and allowed the smallmouth to move up. I caught over 40 trout and smallmouth with a few goggle eye thrown in that morning so most of us ended up going down to zone 3 and 2 in the afternoon.

Afternoon fishing proved to be more challenging. Maybe it was because several of the fish had sore mouths from the morning session and there were more fishermen in the stream that afternoon.

The noon meal had many tales traded over the Chili, macaroni, cornbread, chips and dip. I believe a good time was had by all.



Boot Lou and Ed fished up in zone 1 in the morning. Rob and Max fished downstream in the afternoon.

Brett Goes to the Gulf

The weather wasn't exactly great as a matter of fact it was terrible. Brett said they had about 20 minutes of sun in two days of fishing. It was raining the wind was hard the waves were high, not exactly Brett's favorite type of fishing weather, except that the temperature, was favorable. However despite all the bad there were fish caught. Sight fishing to Big Redfish is a thrill and the best way to fish for them. Casting a heavy fly rod all day to open water and hoping a fish is in the area isn't much fun. You can luck into one every now and then, but your chances of hooking up are greatly increased when you actually see what you're casting



to. Brandon Keck is the guide Brett used and the same guide I hire. I taught Brandon to fly fish about 11 years ago. He is getting an excellent reputation as a guide and he will put you on some huge Redfish. He has a professionally made video coming out soon. You can see the teaser on his sight.

www.southernflyexpeditions.com/

River Conditions I don't think I need to tell you how area streams are right now. The current river just opened up this morning and the local creeks are fishable, but the bigger water will take some time to get to a fishable level. Fishing in off color water can be very good especially with larger flies and streamers. Dress for the weather and always have a dunk bag with you.





RiverRap

January 30, 2016

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Jan 31st Outing to Maramec Park

Feb 2nd Fly Tying

Feb.14th Club Outing Stone Mill

Feb 16th Club Meeting

Feb 19th & 20th St. Robert Sportsman's Show

Feb 27th Outing to Westover

February Happenings in the RFFA

Here are the February Happenings in the RFFA

Sunday 31 January Meramec – horn goes off at 8:00. We usually meet in the far parking lot. Once again please bring your lunch and fall in bag just in case. Here's a link - <http://missouritrout.com/maramec.html>

Also – dues are due!

Sunday 14 February – YES I know it's Valentines Day! Why not take your sweetheart to Stone Mill to fish? We'll have a gathering there around 9:00 or so. Now – this is also an experiment to see how easy or hard it is to get on post and if we'll do any more outings on FLW. ID requirements to get on post have changed – a Missouri driver's License is no longer acceptable. You must bring a second form of ID – a passport will work AND you must go in thru the front gate. Unless you ride with someone who is a DOD id card holder who is willing to be your escort. Here is a link for further info and what you may need for ID - http://www.myguidon.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=19496

Tuesday 16 Feb Regular Meeting at Towne Suits in St Robert. Short business meeting followed by a program given by Herb on the Stream Team he started at the Junior High in Waynesville.

Friday and Saturday 19 & 20 February – St Robert Sportsman's Show in St Robert. We have a booth and I'll bring fliers and our banner. We usually have some fly tying going on and if we have a lap top a slide show of our numerous catches. If you have a stream team t-shirt or a shirt with our patch on it that would be great to wear!!! I'll send another email about set up on Friday, and who is manning the booth when. Everyone is encouraged to come and promote the club!!

27 February Westover – you know who you are!!!

Tightlines!

Louisa Runnalls

Fishing Reports:

Report Presented by Lou & photos from Jerry and Lou

Some fodder for the newsletter. Enjoy!!

Trip report vs fishing report – Have you all ever noticed when we don't catch fish it's a trip report, but when we do catch fish it's a fishing report? Old Chuck Tryon – Founding Member and past Newsletter Editor for the RFFA – would call it casting practice when we didn't catch fish at an outing. Well, we did pretty darn good if I do say so myself at Montauk this past Saturday. Jerry, Todd, Herb, Reggie and myself braved the cold temps to try our hand at the fishes. I think the high was supposed to be in the mid 30s, but with the wind putting a bite into it, it was down in the low teens. Herb and I ran into each other in the parking lot – he having already scored one fish and I was just getting there! We wandered over to the lake thinking we could see some on the surface but the bald eagle cruising overhead had put the fish down permanent or at least while we were there. As we went back over to the hatchery we stopped by that meandering stream and took a turn or two. I scored a few on a strike indicator beetle as Herb worked up a few on his green nymph.



A rainbow and a brown from the catch and release outlet

Low and behold the rest of the crew walked by and came down to fish with us. Todd brought his Tenkara rod – smart idea since without the guides freezing temperatures wouldn't bother the casting. Reggie and Jerry both took turns trying it and between the three of them caught some really nice fish – Jerry and Reggie both bringing brown trout to hand!



Todd with a Tenkara rainbow and showing the guys how it's done



Jerry hooks up with the Tenkara rod and Lou's rainbow

Over all a great day to be out on the water! TightLines! Louisa Runnalls

Fishing Report by Sam

A couple of weeks ago I took another trip to the Louisiana gulf water to fish the marsh for Red Fish. I took my youngest son with me this time and treated him to a trip of a life time. He had never fished salt before and had never caught a fish over 5 or 6 pounds. He attempted to fish with a fly rod, but his lack of experience with a heavy fly rod in the wind proved to be too dangerous for Brandon, our guide, and he wasn't getting the fly anywhere near where it had to be. Throwing a fly rod in the wind, with a moving boat and a moving fish is indeed a challenge even for experienced fly fishermen, so I finally convinced him to switch to a spinning rod for everyone's sake. He managed to catch the largest fish he has ever landed and had a great time watching me pull in a new fish added to my caught list, an Alligator Gar. The Gar was about 40 pounds and about 55-57 inches. The largest Red Fish we caught was about 30 pounds and it was a fish Brandon had caught back in August. If you are wondering how he could tell, the marking near the tail was exactly the same "G" looking mark.

Brandon Keck was our guide and he is becoming pretty famous in the world of Red Fishing. He just released his newest film about top water action with Big Red Fish. He has another film coming out next summer. Last month I told you about the trailer, now you can see the entire film. While we were there with him we got a premier viewing prior to it being posted. It is also available on Vimeo <https://vimeo.com/152710432> Go to www.southernflyexpeditions.com/ for more films and tons of photos.



My son mike with his firs Red Fish

The First fish of the trip on a cold day in the marsh



Notice the “G” marking on the tail.



I don't know what we would have done if I had not brought along my Boga Grip.

Jerry and Todd took a trip to Lane Spring this past weekend.
Jerry calls the photo “Todd and Chub”



The fish is actually a “**Common Shiner**”



Reggie sharing his photo of Stacy Kalous with her first trout on a very cold 5 degree February day at Monauk

River Conditions The local streams are still up from normal flow, and clearing, but they still have good color for fishing. The bigger water is just now getting to a fishable level. Fishing in off color water can be very good especially with larger flies and streamers. Dress for the weather and always have a dunk bag with you.





RiverRap

February 29, 2016

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

March 1st Fly Tying

March 12th Club Outing to Blackwell Lake

March 15th Club Meeting

March 26th Outing to Simms Lake

March Happenings in the RFFA

Tuesday 1 March – Tyin' & Lyin' at Rolla Public Library – start around 6:00 and go till they throw us out around 8:45. For those who need some Clouser Minnows for the chain pickerel chase this month now is a good time to tie some up!



Saturday 12 March -Blackwell Lake in Indian Trails Conservation Area we'll meet up around 9:00 at the boat ramp. If anyone wants to meet up at the Walmart parking lot in Salem around 8:30 to convoy in let me know by Thursday the 10th. Here is a link to the MDC Atlas website -

<http://mdc7.mdc.mo.gov/applications/moatlas/AreaSummaryPage.aspx?txtArealD=6201>

Tuesday 15 March – Regular Meeting in the conference/meeting room of Town Suits, 250 Carmel Valley Way. We'll finalize the date for Stream Clean-up and figure out who is doing what; finalize business cards and pamphlets (if not already done) and cover any other business, then have a program on bugs.

Saturday 26 March – Sims Valley Lake – meet up in the parking lot around 8:00. Here is a link to that web page on the MDC Atlas -

<http://mdc7.mdc.mo.gov/Applications/MOATLAS/AreaSummaryPage.aspx?txtArealD=6213>

Suggestions for most of our outings –

Bring a lunch – town for both these lakes (and most the places we go to) is out there a ways

Although there is some access from the bank it is better to have something to float in – canoe, kayak, float tube, SUP, boat, etc.,- just remember both these lakes allow trolling motors only;

Various warm water flies –both these lakes have all the usual warm water suspects – largemouth bass, bluegill, green sunfish, catfish, crappie, etc., etc.

Just in case the sun comes out – hat, polarized sunglasses, long sleeved shirt, long pants.

Hope to see you all there!

Tightlines!

Louisa Runnalls

St. Robert Sportsman Show

Congratulations to our newest member – Chris Brining! He won the drawing for our free membership at the St Robert Sportsman’s Show this past weekend.



Over all it was a pretty good show for us – 21 folks dropped their name in the bucket for a chance at a free membership and subscription to American Angler magazine

I know sometimes it was as slow as molasses in January (especially in the afternoon) but what can we expect – it was NICE outside

And last but certainly not least – THANK YOU all who were able to come “man” the booth at the show!

Fishing Reports:

Report Presented by Lou

Club Outing to Maramec Spring Park

I love chasing native fish in their home waters. To me it’s like being the visiting team and kicking some home team butt, so any time I get a chance to do that I will. Reggie, Stacie, Herb and myself met up down at Maramec Spring to try our hand for trout. I caught a bunch of feisty rock bass, some gorgeous longear sunfish, a sucker and one (yes 1!) lone trout.



Reggie figured them out pretty quick and caught a bunch of trout on his white rabbit fly; Stacie scored her first Missouri trout; and Herb well, sorry to say as I write this I can't remember the crazy number he said – was it a dozen or 2 dozen? Anywhozit – I think everyone enjoyed getting out in this wonderful warm weather and for the new folks fishing a new to them fishery.



Club Outing to Stone Mill

I didn't make the outing to Stone Mill Spring but Reggie did. Seems the fish were very nice to him in the snow - a half dozen to hand and about as many misses. They wouldn't come to the surface so he was having to use a WB (hmm those rock bass at Meramec liked those too!) down deep



Club Outing to Westover



We had a good turnout for the fly tying and fishing trip to Westover on Saturday and everyone caught fish. Some more than others and some of the fish caught were surprise fish. Usually when you are fishing for trout that's about all you catch, but occasionally some of the other fish that share the same water eat your fly.



Chain Pickerel live in slow mossy areas waiting to ambush prey. Even the little Sculpins will eat a fly



Flood Damage on the Current River at Baptist Camp Access and Little Piney creek.

If you have not been to Baptist Camp since the flood OR down to the Little Piney, you may be in for a surprise. The circle drive at Baptist Camp access is closed due to the undercutting of the road by the flooded river. Barriers are in place to prevent any traffic using the circle from either direction.



Baptist Access road damage.



A 7 foot deep hole on the access road at Hwy 63 bridge.

If you have not seen this, it is some footage from the flood in December at Montauk State Park:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KcbWH7mfFcg>

River Conditions The local streams have very good flow right now and good color.

Dress for the weather and always have a dunk bag with you.





RiverRap

March 31, 2016

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

April 4th Water Quality Survey

April 5th Fly Tying

April 9th Mill Creek Clean Up

March 19th Club Meeting

April 24th Outing to Rinquelin Trail Community Lake

April Happenings in the RFFA

Hello All!!!

Hope you enjoyed this wonderful March weather we had. At the outing to Blackwell Lake at the beginning of the month it was "rain drops kept falling on our heads" and this last weekend we had a bluebird sky day. Caught Chain pickerel in both! Hopefully April will be better, weather AND fishing wise!

Monday 4 April – Stream survey. Meet up in Waynesville City Park at 0800. I'll bring the survey equipment.

Tuesday 5 April –Tyin' and Lyin' at Rolla Public Library. Starts around 6:00 and goes till they throw us out. Bring your favorite fly to tie; or the one you need to fill your boxes or the one your having trouble with and see if anyone can help you with it.

Saturday 9 April – Mill Creek Clean-up – Sam already gathered our list. Hopefully there will be time afterwards to go fishing!!

Tuesday 19 April - Regular meeting at Town Suits in St Robert. After the regular meet (please bring your updates in reference to our Stream Clean-up on 6 August for Todd). Casting will be the theme –Todd has an indoor casting practice fly rod for folks to try their hand and a video to show.

Sunday 24 April – Outing to Lake Rinquelin. Meet up around 9:00 at the boat ramp. Here is a link to the MDC website with all the info, area map etc., etc. I took a friend out there on the 25th and we caught some decent bass, a few bluegill and a huge 9" redear!!! <http://mdc7.mdc.mo.gov/Applications/MOATLAS/AreaSummaryPage.aspx?txtArealD=8233>

FYIs -

Don't forget our May meeting will be in Waynesville City Park- the club will provide hamburgers and buns and everyone else is asked to bring a side – we'll get a head count on Friday the 13!

We are planning 3 outings in May – one local and two to the Fellows Lake for Muskie!!! Stay tuned for more info or maybe we can get Todd to tie a musky fly at tying night! (Hint hint Todd!)

Tightlines!

Louisa Runnalls

This information was sent to us from Missouri Stream Team Water Coalition:

LEGISLATIVE LOOKOUT

ISSUE ALERTS

53,556 Acres of Wetlands at RISK-[St. John-New Madrid Levee Project](#)

The proposed Army Corps of Engineers project would destroy crucial fish and wildlife habitat and degrade or eliminate 53,556 acres of functional wetlands along the Mississippi and the Missouri Bootheel. [Learn More](#) and [SIGN the Online Petition](#) asking EPA to VETO this project.

Changes to Missouri Department of Conservation-[SJR 19](#)

This legislation would submit to the voters a proposal to increase the number of Conservation Commissioners from 4 to 6. Even though this seems like a small change it could have a negative impact on the future of our Missouri Department of Conservation. [Learn More and Voice Your Opinion](#)

**STONE MILL SPRING BRANCH
RECREATION AREA
2016 Rainbow Trout Stocking
Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Number</u>
March 18	500
April 8	500
April 29	500
May 20	500
June 10	500
July 1	500
July 22	500
August 12	500
September 2	500
September 23	500
October 14	500

Stocking dates and numbers are subject to alteration, postponement, or cancellation without notice. For more information call: 596-2814



FAMILY & MWR PRESENTS
FLY FISHING
OUTDOOR
ADVENTURE CENTER

20 MAR, 24 APR, 15 MAY
10AM-5PM



Spend a day learning fly fishing with world renowned fly fishing expert Charlie Reading. Charlie owns Reading Fly Shop, and will teach you everything you need to know. Located near beautiful Bennet Springs State Park, his shop has a private casting pond to facilitate his classes, and he'll provide all the equipment necessary—or you can bring your own.

Max class size is 12—so sign up soon! \$25 per adult, \$20 per youth. Register at OAC or call. Open to the public, all ages. Departure at OAC at 10am, arrival at OAC at 5pm. Lunch provided.

Learn an exciting new hobby from one of the best in the industry!

OAC IS LOCATED AT 2290 FLW K ROAD
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FORTLEONARDWOODMWR.COM



Fishing Reports:

Report Presented by Lou

A fishing report and photo for the newsletter.

I couldn't tell if the coyotes I heard in the distance were on MY side of the river or the other side so I decided discretion is the better part of valor, reeled up and headed for the truck. The sun had just gone down behind the ridge at TA 250 and even though I probably could have fished another 15 minutes or so in the twilight I decided to call it a day. TA 250 is one of 14 ponds/lakes (we can get on all but one of them because it's for the little kids!) on Fort Leonard Wood that is a pleasant evening stroll that can take hours if combined with fishing. It's approximately one mile road has plenty of places to step to the water's edge and cast 180°. Filled with water for bridge training it also has been filled with

largemouth bass, bluegill, green sunfish, channel catfish and some bruiser carp. If I had to call a lake my “home waters”,



this one would be it.

Largemouth right at dark

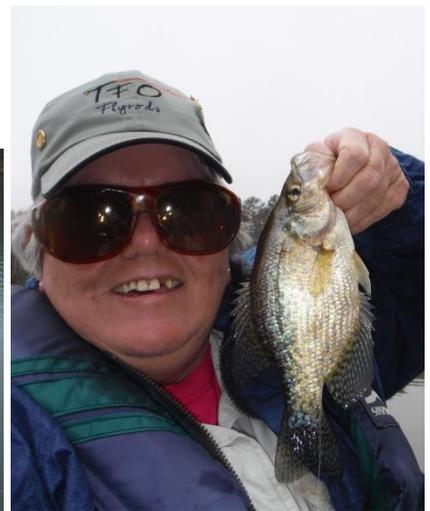
Bluegill with a great sunset background

Tightlines!

Louisa Runnalls

Outing to Blackwell

It was a dark, damp morning and if the sun every shined we didn't see it. It drizzled on and off all morning which was to our advantage since it kept everyone else off the lake. The afternoon was not the same and we were joined by 2 bass boats and a canoe in our piscatorial pursuits. Todd scored one, then another, then a third (he swears it was the same fish all three times!) on a Murdock Minnow on a sinking leader. I worked a Foxy Clouser next to the weed line and finally had a hook up with a chunky pickerel. And so the day went – weeds = pickerel. Drift too far off the weed line and got nothing. Sometimes we saw the ambush coming and sometimes we didn't. For a sometimes (if not most the time) persnickety fish it was a great day chasing a unique species in Missouri! We did catch all the usual suspects too – one bass, one bluegill, and one crappie.



Tightlines!

Louisa Runnalls

Outing to Sims Valley

What a great end to the RFFA's March Madness! It was a Pickerel Palooza on Sims Valley Lake with bluebird skies and enough flies-a-flinging to even make Bob Clouser proud. Most everyone ended their day with at least a half dozen chain pickerel to cross off their life list. Todd was all over the lake with his peddle drive system and fish finder aside his new Jackson SOT and thus was our guide to depth, trees – what a hazard those were – and fish. Although the chain pickerel seemed smaller than Blackwell Lake being about 12-14" with a few running up to 18" they were biting frequently enough to keep even the "one and done" folks casting again, and again, and again! Mark your calendars for next March because we are going back!!



Lou with a nice size pickerel



Sharon had success too



Todd brings a pickerel to the boat



Lou with another one



This one tried to slip through the net.

Tightlines!

Louisa Runnalls

Sam has a couple of photos to share from this past month:

12" Chub Minnow. I ended up catching about a dozen this size.



Looking for lots of action head over to the Meramec River. Yesterday I caught about 50 rainbows from one hole.

River Conditions The local streams have very good flow right now and good color.





RiverRap

April 30, 2016

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

- May 3rd Fly Tying
- May 7th Club Outing Towel Lake
- May 15th Club Outing Fellows Lake
- May 17th Club Meeting at the Park
- May 21st Veterans Fishing Day Maramec park
- May 22nd Club Outing Fellow Lake

15th Annual Smallmouth Rendezvous & Fly Tying Extravaganza



May 13 & 14, 2016

Presented by:
Northeastern Oklahoma Fly Fishing Club
Native Women Fly Fishers
First Baptist Church

FREE ADMISSION

9am to 4pm daily
First Baptist Church
201 Commercial Road, Tahlequah, OK
(Northeast of Ross St. and US Hwy. 62)

Featured Speakers:
To Be Announced

Visit website: www,NEOKflyfishers.org
Call: Walter Davis 918-360-2085 or Larry Stinnett 918-931-0940

May Happenings in the RFFA

Hello All!

Hope you have taken the opportunity to chase some white bass this April – rumors are it started out slow but by the end of the month was going like gangbusters! (My darn sources won't divulge where and on what though.)

Here are our May happenings in the club – we are going on an adventure!

Tuesday 3 May – Tyin' and Lyin' at the Rolla Public Library – starting around 6:00 – 6:30 or so, and going till they close. Come see the latest and greatest fly your fellow fly flingers are tying and tell a few lies about the ones that got away.

Saturday 7 May – Outing to Towel Lake on Little Prairie Conservation Area northeast of Rolla. Meet up around 8:30 or so at the boat ramp. Having a boat or kayak or canoe is an advantage however, there is some bank fishing on both sides of the lake if you don't want to float or the winds are too bad to float. Here is a link from the MDC website -

<http://mdc7.mdc.mo.gov/Applications/MOATLAS/AreaSummaryPage.aspx?txtAreaID=6316>

Sunday 15 May – Outing to Fellows Lake north of Springfield - Meet up at the boat dock concessioners around 9:00. This is a lake where we have to pay a boat fee to get on it, however, if your not going to launch a canoe or kayak or boat you can fish off the bank for free, but bank fishing is limited. This is a stretch for us (as in distance) but when we found out it has a resident population of muskies well we gotta give it a shot. If your not into chasing muskie it also has all our usual warm water suspects – largemouth bass, crappie, bluegill, catfish and walleye. Here is a link to their website -

<http://fellowslakemarina.com/>

Tuesday 17 May – Our Annual Picnic in the Park. We'll start around 6:00. Everyone is encouraged to bring their family members and if possible, come early and fish the Roubidoux. The club will provide hamburgers and buns; all members need to bring a dish to share. ***! will need an RSVP no later than Friday the 13th on how many your bringing.*** We can also run a sign up for vittles so we don't wind up with too much potato salad, LOL! Also – even if you don't come to fish early bring your fly rod and we'll do some casting.

Saturday 21 May is the free fishing day for veterans at Maramec Park.

Sunday 22 May – Outing to Fellows Lake in Springfield. YES we are having a repeat for 1) Those who want to really fish this lake and 2) Those who may have missed the first outing to Fellows and 3) Just for the heck of it. Didn't we say this will be our adventure month? Same time, location, etc., etc. as on the 15th.

All these outings are weather dependent – (the wind could curtail casting/floating on any of these lakes) so if you don't like the looks of the weather please don't go.

Also all these places are off the beaten path a bit so your encouraged bringing a lunch, water, sunscreen, bug spray, etc., etc. to make your day a comfortable one.

Hope to see you all soon!!!

AND don't forget to send Sam those fishing reports!!

Tightlines!

Louisa Runnalls

Activity Report:

Presented by Sam

Counting bugs

Lou, Herb, Todd and myself did a bug count on the Roubidoux April 4th. It was a good morning activity at the park in Waynesville. We found most of the usual critters, but there was one that I had never seen before so I took it home to find out exactly what it was. It turned out to be a Horsefly larva



I have done several samplings and this was the first one I had seen, so I took several photos.

Mill Creek Watershed Clean-Up

Todd, Reggie and his crew and myself took part in the Mill Creek watershed cleanup April 9th. It started out a very cool morning and warmed quickly. A ton of trash was picked up by the volunteers, with food, drinks and music waiting for us when we finished. None of us could stay long after we were finished, so it was short outing, and a good morning.



Todd carrying a wheel we found

Fishing Reports:

Presented by Todd

Dad and I made it to Rinquelin last weekend. It was a pretty gusty day. Dad had difficulty staying in position even with an anchor. The water was warmer than I expected. The surface temperature was already up to 70F. Fishing was slow but consistent all morning. We caught redear, crappie, green sunfish, and bass, but nothing of any notable size. Later in the afternoon we found one particular rock pile that seemed to hold every big redear in the lake. At that point, it was basically a fish every cast!



Lake Rinquelin Redear Sunfish

Presented by Sam

Brett and I took a trip to lake X with my drift boat and took turns rowing and fishing. We caught fish all day, nothing big, but it was slower catching on one side of the lake than the other. We caught Bluegill, Green Sunfish, Bass, Crappie, Redear and a first for me. I saw these small fish up in the cove in still and shallow water and couldn't figure out what they were. We were fishing with large flies, so

I changed my rig to something you would use for trout and caught a few of them. They turned out to be Golden Shiners. Apparently they were placed in the lake as a forage food for the bass, OR someone was fishing with them as small minnows and may have dumped the minnow bucket.



Golden Shiner



Double rainbow at the end of the day

Norfolk Lake Stripers

I received a phone call from a guide I had contacted down at Norfolk Lake to tell me the Stripers were up and hitting shad early and late in the day. I told him I would be down Tuesday morning. He told me to get here early so I left the house at 2:30 AM. We headed out at 5:30 to “his special place” for some top water action. As it began to get light we started seeing other boats in the “special place”. There were 5 of them all sitting quietly waiting for the eruption. The eruption never came. There were some hybrids and whites busting here and there, but the acre and half of fish that was supposed to be there must have decided there were too many boats. Whatever the reason we didn’t see any stripers. I caught a half dozen hybrids a white bass, a largemouth and a smallmouth all on the same fly that I had tied the day before. My first striper on a fly will have to wait.

NOAA lied to me

The direction and speed was supposed to be good for what I wanted to do, but NOAA lied to me. It wasn’t at all the 5mph they had predicted. I had to row back across the lake against whitecaps. I fished Towel lake twice this week, but I was actually there looking for Carp. I only saw 1 Carp in the two days, so apparently the water is still a little too cool for them. These 50 degree nights and soon to be 40s at night will not help. I fished top water and picked up more Green Sunfish than anything else. I caught some largemouth here and there, but no size and a lone crappie.

River Conditions Area streams are excellent right now. Good flow and good color mean good fishing conditions. Get out and enjoy it while you can, spring storms and flooding can shut things down pretty fast.





RiverRap

May 31, 2016

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

June 7th Fly Tying

June 11th Float Trip on Roubidoux

June 21st Club Meeting

We're going to float the Roubidoux!!!

SATURDAY 11 June - Since we have gone to clean-ups every other year we are going to float the Roubidoux to check for hazards (trees that have to be gone over or around) , trash (the BIG stuff) and maybe wet a line or three along the way. We'll be floating from the spring in Roy Laughlin Park down to the confluence with the Gasconade. We are going to do a self shuttle so need at least 3 to go. Contact Lou to sign up !!! (This is of course if the weather permits and the river is not flooded!!!)

Back to the beginning – RFFA happenings for June are

Tuesday 7 June – Tyin' & Lyin' at the Rolla Public Library. Starts around 6 or so and goes until they close the doors and shut off the lights.

Saturday 11 June – Float trip See above! A few more notes – you need to bring your own watercraft – canoes and kayaks are great but an inner tube will probably do too. BYOL – Bring your own lunch and beverages since we may be on the water all day. We will be stopping to check the access we have used in the past so please be prepared –long pants are better than shorts for traipsing thru the woods and weeds, etc., etc. Year before last we floated it first then went back and fished selected sections. ALSO –bring a rope in case we need to line your stuff thru a tough spot or two!!!

Tuesday 21 June – Regular Meeting at Town Suites in St Robert. Starts at 6:30 P.M. We'll be working on the Stream Clean-up so if you have volunteered to cover an area please bring an update. If Max is back from GINS he'll give us a presentation on his escapades. We'll also decide if we want to have an outing the last weekend in June and if so – where!!!

Hope to see you there!!

Tightlines!

Louisa Runnalls

Fishing Reports:

Report Presented by Lou

Fellows Lake – Part 1

The musky that day proved as elusive as a cougar sighting in Missouri – rare but it happens!

After getting our tags at the marina along with fishing maps with suggested areas to try Todd and I headed for the far side of the far finger of the lake. There were plenty of coves with rocks and down timber to try which were hit and miss even for the bluegill and green sunfish. In other words fishing was slow and once a bite was

found the fish seemed to get lip lock pretty quickly. On to the next tree and rocky shore line which was aplenty. Todd did see a musky, plus had a few hits on his enormous musky flies (which were the size of most the fish I was catching, HA!!) We then crossed that part of the lake and headed to the other finger closer to the marina. It had more points and a weed line for the musky to hide in, but fewer places for bluegill and mean greens.



Bluegill female



Bluegill male



Mayfly hitch hiker

It was all to no avail – Todd did not score a musky on this trip. Time to go home and rethink and retry again next Sunday – if the weather is nice!

One note – the places marked on my map for bluegill, crappie and sunfishes was totally different than the areas the guy running the marina marked for Todd to try for musky. BUT the musky eat what I was fishing for. HmMMMM.

Fellows Lake - Part 2

Todd got one!!!

I also had one on for as long as it takes to say “Oh my God! I got one, I got one, I got one!” No mistaking that long skinny body and the fight, for as long as it lasted, was pretty good too!

We concentrated our efforts on the first finger of the lake – and it proved to pan out better than the Sunday before. The bluegill and green sunfish were just off the flooded shore line. The Musky seemed to be in an almost predictable ambush mode but not really. There seemed to be no discernable pattern except in one cove where they were very tight to the bank. Todd spotted at least a half a dozen or more, plus lined one that splashed and scared the you know what out of both of us.

I did get a staring contest with a little one – he would not move no matter how close I ran a fly in front of his nose. Until I lined him, then he would disappear only to reappear about 2 feet away and we would start our little stare down again.

All in all a pretty good trip this time and muskie just might wind up in the pursue column for the RFFA.

And where is the picture of Todd with his fish? I didn't make it over there quick enough. My bag!



Bluegill and Green Sunfish Musky food



Todd working an ambush site.. Musky like to hide in weeds or brush and ambush their prey like this Crappie.

River Conditions The local streams have very good flow right now and good color. Rivers are up and some are still muddy, but clearing. Increased CFS means caution when wading and paddling. Fishing should be good when the stream levels drop enough to fish them. Cloudy water is usually always good for fishing and you should find fish with full bellies. High water brings all sorts of food and fish feed heavily.





RiverRap

June 29, 2016

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

July 5th Fly Tying

July 16th Outing to Roby Lake

July 19th Club Meeting

Hello All!!!

Boy did we get a lot accomplished during our June meeting – we tied up a bunch of loose ends – found a few others we needed to nail down and basically got a really good handle on the Stream Clean-up. We'll keep working that until after it's over.

We also had a great presentation on Max's trip to West Ship Island, part of the Gulf Islands National Seashore off Mississippi. If you didn't get a chance to watch the video here is a link – thank you for loading that up for us Todd! - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vunpusraEl4&feature=youtu.be>

Our July Happenings in the club -

Tuesday 5 July – Tying and Lying at the Rolla Public Library – starting around 6:30 or so and going till they close at 9:00. Bring the stuff to tie your favorite fly, or to fill that empty spot in your box. Don't know what to tie? The warm water bite is in full swing! Secret Flies, Briminators, Rubber Legged Dragons, Predators, poppers, etc., etc. are great right now.

Saturday 16 July Outing to Roby Lake. Hopefully it's not too weeded up by then – a possibility on any of our favorite waters this time of year. We (as a club) haven't ever been so here is a link to the MTNF (Mark Twain National Forest) website - <http://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/mtnf/recreation/fishing/recarea/?recid=21796&actid=42> It is only a 5 acre lake but appears you will need at least a float tube to fish it well. We'll see.

Tuesday 19 July Regular meeting – Towne Suites in St Robert. Starts at 6:30. This is our last meeting before the Stream Clean-up on the 6th of August. We will need to cross all our "t's" and dot all our "i's" before the night is thru. If you have volunteered or been asked to do a job please make sure Todd has the status, etc., etc.

Any suggestions for other places to go fish? It can be wade fishing or floating!!! Moving water or not!!! Just need to have fish!!!

Anyone interested in doing a float on the Big Piney on FLW? Golf course bridge to the take out down by TA 250? Either the 10th or 24th? Let me know by Tying night please! Thanks!.

Tightlines!
Louisa Runnalls

Louisa Runnalls

Fishing Reports:

Jerry showing off his catch

Hi, Sam

I caught at Lion's club park with secret fly, you can use it for River rap. Thanks



Report Presented by Lou,

Here are some pictures and the report from the recon on the Doux. Plus we went fishing of course so it's also a fishing report, LOL!

Reggie, Jamie, Mike, Todd, Joey (from the SeaBees) and myself made the recon of the Roubidoux on the 11th of June. Good news was there didn't seem to be that much trash (although – it is the beginning of summer and we expect that to change by August). Bad news was there are about a dozen tires, one dumpster and at least 2 trees (that will have to be negotiated under, over or around). There also seemed to be a lot of fishing line hung on trees, etc. This may be a good year to purchase some knives or heavy duty toe nail clippers to cut that down. It does look like we could do the whole creek this year from the spring down to its junction with the Gasconade. The take out at the lower end is rough but if the SeaBees can haul the canoes and trash up the ramp to load on the trash trailer/canoe hauler it would be doable.

And since the recon only took half a day we broke for lunch and then those who could tried their hand wetting a line in the slow water above the spring. The most exciting catch was Jamie had on a gar for about 5 minutes or so before it finally let go. There were some largemouth bass, bluegill, and a surprise redear brought to hand. This area could be a repeat for the gar though since they seemed to be plenty plentiful.

Tightlines!

Louisa Runnalls

Redear Sunfish Something to think about when you see the next two photos.. small flies get swallowed by small mouthed fish like bluegill and can be a pain in the ass to get out. Larger hooks/flyes/poppers are usually taken much shallower by the bluegill and smaller mouthed

fish and easier to remove and easier on the fly and the fish.





Report presented by Sam

I finally had some time to wet a line myself this morning. And it proved to be a great morning. I knew where these nice fish were and I have on more than one occasion watched helplessly while my clients beat the water and put them down. It is a tough spot to fish for sure, with stealth long leaders and gentle presentations required. I used a dry and dropper combination with about 80% of the takes on the dropper. The takes on top were explosive and of course the most fun. All in all 4 nice browns about 16-17" one nice size rainbow about 18", with the others, mostly browns, 12-13".



River Conditions The local streams have very good flow right now and good color. Rivers are up and running normal. The Big Piney did have a very fast spike, but has receded. Smallmouth top water bite is early and late in the day and just about to peak in the next few weeks.





RiverRap

July 29, 2016

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Tuesday August 2nd Fly Tying Rolla Public Library 6:30

Saturday August 6th Roubidoux Stream Clean Be there by 8:30

Sunday August 14th Club Outing to the Huzzah 8:00

Tuesday August 16th Monthly Club Meeting 6:30

Our August Happenings

Hope you are beating this heat by getting out and fishing one of our great Ozark streams! They are perfect right now for wet wading. Just make sure you take plenty of water!

Tuesday August 2 – Tyn’ & Lysin at Rolla Public Library starting around 6:30 and ending when they throw us out around 9:00. Reggie had a request we tie popper type flies – SO – bring in your stuff to tie YOUR favorite popper/slider/diver/surface fly for warm water!!! Plus enough stuff for one or two other people to tie it. Let’s not try to epoxy anything in the library though – whether it’s a finish or gluing stuff together.

Saturday August 6th – ALL HANDS ON DECK!!! Our stream clean-up of the Roubidoux. We’ll meet No Later Than 8:30 A.M. In Waynesville City Park (look for our banner) and get our stuff together before the SeaBees arrive. Todd is the Stream Captain again this year – Thanks Todd!

Saturday August 6th AFTER our clean-up – we’ll go fishing! Right there on the Roubidoux! So bring a fly rod to the clean-up and we’ll hit the stream after everything is said and done.

Sunday August 14th – Let’s go fishing! How about the Huzzah? We’ll meet at the parking lot by the low water bridge on Hwy E around 8:00. We won’t float this one so come prepared to chase smallies, rockbass, mean greens and orange thangs while wet wading. Bring plenty of water!!! And a lunch!! (I suggest the lunch be pretty simple and easy to carry – we’ll fish – fish – fish and probably won’t be back to the vehicles by noon.) Since we haven’t been here for awhile – if it looks really squirrely there we’ll pick either the Huzzah or Courtois and hit one of them farther upstream. Shoals. Here is a link to the MDC website and the area brochure for Huzzah Conservation Area.

https://extra.mdc.mo.gov/documents/area_brochures/5702map.pdf

Tuesday August 16th –Our regular monthly meeting. 6:30 P.M. till we are done. We'll do an After Action Review of the stream clean-up, so please bring comments, plus discuss any other business we have and then have a program.

Tightlines!

Louisa Runnalls

Fishing Reports:

Report Presented by Lou,

A fishing report from Roby Lake

Remember that old saying “You can lead a horse to water but you can't make them drink”? Well, sometimes fisherman are the same way. Jerry, Todd and myself met up on the boat ramp of Roby Lake about 8:00. Jerry had sold his canoe so was using Todd's float tube. Jerry had never used a float tube. Ever. The learning curve was pretty steep. This could get interesting. After about an hour Jerry got a tow from Todd to where we were catching fish on the far bank. Thus the first of many tows of the day. Some of the bluegill were back on the beds and were very cooperative for at least two of us. After Jerry's first success catching a bluegill while trolling he failed to get another bite. Not one. Not even when Todd put him on the beds. You can take a Jerry to water but you can't make him catch fish, LOL!!! Meanwhile Todd and I were in the double digits each– mean greens, bluegill, a few bass and a nice catfish. Roby Lake will be a do over for sure!!



Channel Cat at Roby Lake



Jerry learning how to manage a float tube.



Todd with yet another Bluegill



Jerry getting a tow from Todd



Interesting way to cover the water

Oh and all those squiggly lines on Todd's sonar? That's everywhere he went on the lake!
Towing and not towing!

Tightlines!

Louisa Runnalls

Big Piney Stream Clean

Todd and Lou helped out Stream Team 27 this past Sunday on a 7 mile stretch of the Big Piney. Recent flooding had swept most the trash downstream but our group of about 25 still recovered numerous bags of trash, tires, a rim, and a refrigerator. The unique find was a satellite dish. Afterward we had a greatly appreciated (we were starving!!) BBQ provided by Lay-Z-Day Canoe rentals.



Tightlines!

Louisa Runnalls

Sometimes it is nice to go do something different, thus our outings that range both far and wide. One of my other brick wall fly fishing clubs had an outing to Mountain Springs Trout Park in Highlandville. HA! Those weren't fish- they were footballs with fins!!! Most the fish are at least 3 pounds – however there were a few submarines that pushed the endurance of the angler to get them to the net. In other words – they wore me OUT!!!



I also like doing the unconventional – sometimes it works. In this case after having caught 2 of these behemoths on a black wooly bugger (and seeing them feed the fish on the other side of the pond) I switched to a Predator fly. And switched sides of the pond. I caught the biggest trout of my life!!! It wouldn't fit in my boat net!!! Plus I was laughing so hard I almost fell in. All in all it was a great evening of food, fellowship and fishing!



Tightlines!

Louisa Runnalls

Report presented by Sam

Brown Trout and ants go together quite well... the good drift and a precise presentation is necessary.



River Conditions The local streams have above normal flow right now and good color. Some streams are a little darker than others from the storms we had a weeks ago, but Fishing continues to be very good, especially for this time of year.





RiverRap

August 29, 2016

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Tuesday August 2nd Fly Tying Rolla Public Library 6:30

Our August Happenings

Saturday August 6th –

Sunday August 14th –

Tuesday August 16th –

Tightlines!

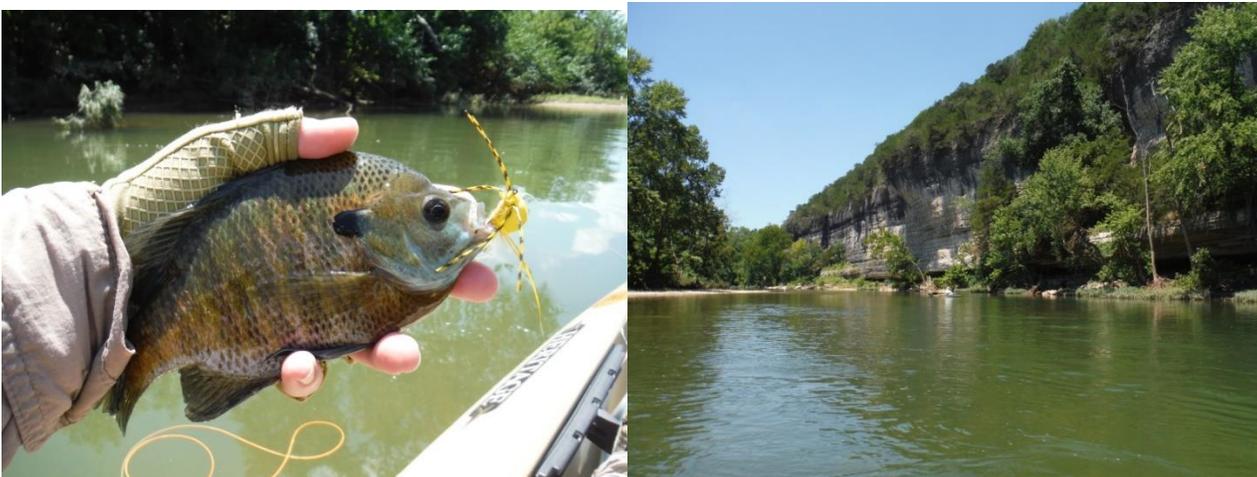
Louisa Runnalls

Fishing Reports:

Report Presented by Lou,

Fished the Elk River with a friend July 21st.

What a great stretch of river! We floated from below the dam in Noel to Cowskin Access - 9 miles or so. Finally figured out those smallies LOVED yellow - tied on a yellow Stealth Bomber and we went to town!!! Water was a little fast and up some but the up was good we didn't have to walk our kayaks/portage hardly at all. There of course were sections I would have loved to do twice. That was were the little fast was a detriment. It was a long hot day - we launched about 9 or so and about 5:30 we finally called it and just floated out. We were pooped, LOL!!! A do over for sure on a cooler day!!





Tightlines!
Louisa Runnalls

Report Presented by Max,

Fishing the Bow River was excellent--not a lot of fish but nothing under twenty inches to the boat on the first day. Second day my buddy Randy had the "dink" of the day--a paltry 16 inches, but we had a few more fish. Wade fished the Highwood for two days and the Crowsnest one day. Randy naturally out-fished me as he normally does but he does nymph and uses a bobber (Thingamabobber). I on the other hand fished like a gentleman--only dries, only upstream, and then only to rising fish (cough, cough). Seriously I did have two wonderful days hitting big cutts on the surface with long casts of my six-weight two-hander and hammering them (pun intended) on size 14 cream Klinkhammers and once I ran out, on the only two Royal Trudes that I had in the box. The odd thing was that the fish were only, and I DO mean only, hitting in the rain. Rain/rise. No rain/no fish either up or down. Since the rain was intermittent it became a frequent knot-tying exercise. And, the harder the rain (and some of it was patently brutal!) the more fish and the harder the strikes. It was grand fun. Lastly, the fish in the pic was taken on the first day on a Loop five-weight provided by the guide. Hell of a fight in deep water and I am definitely NOT a fan of the square-cut fake cork grips on the Loop rods.



GREAT BROWN Max !!

River Conditions The local streams have above normal flow right now and good color. Some streams are a little darker than others from the storms we had a weeks ago, but Fishing continues to be very good, especially for this time of year.





RiverRap

September 30, 2016

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Tuesday October 4th Fly Tying

Tuesday October 18 Monthly meeting

Our October Happenings

Tuesday 4 Oct Tyin' & Lyin' Rolla Public Library. It's almost time to start hitting the trout parks for Winter Catch & Release. Tie up some trout flies!

Tuesday 18 Oct Regular Meeting at Town Suites in St Robert. Starts at 6:30.

Sometime during October Todd would like to revisit Fellows Lake just north of Springfield for Muskie. Who's in?

Fishing Reports: from Todd, Max and Sam

Report Presented by Todd

Sadly, I only made it out three times in September, none of which were much to talk about.

Back in August, we went to Utah and fished a few places. I managed to put my cousin onto his first fish on the fly. I made a brief presentation about the trip at the September meeting. I will give a link to the slides below in case you'd like to include them in the newsletter. The Strawberry River is *definitely* some place to check out if you end up out there.





Jamie



Todd



Todd's Tiger Trout caught in Pass Lake Utah

This hybrid is a cross between Brown trout eggs and Brook trout milt.

Report Presented by Max

Max (that's me) and former RFFA members "Little" Doug Goodman and Randy "Two Bears" Zelenka hit the Conejos River in southeast Colorado last week. Fishing was tough with only Two Bears getting anywhere near success. His ability to consistently catch fish is, at best, somewhat suspect since he uses nymphs and (gasp!) a Thingamabobber. That's the legal equivalent of using an Arkansas Quarter-stick and is ethically questionable. Doug has been known to only cast size 16 Parachute Adams which frequently don't match or even approximate anything at all in any waters anywhere. However, Max (that's me) attempts to match the hatch, fishing with both aplomb and a great deal of style (especially when using a two-handed rod). Therein lies the tale: day four of five, late afternoon, no fish to hand or to flies, and a snowstorm hatch of truly minute critters begins to come off. No fish rise at all--that seems odd, but it was the general pattern for the week. Max (that's me) digs deep into his special nymph box and pulls out the one and only size 22 cream mayfly dry, ties it to 6X and follows it with the one and only size 26 cream emerger, trailing on about 18 inches of 7X. What follows is a last puff on an excellent cigar, the flexing of fingers along the elongated grip of a 4-weight two-hander, and a look of steely determination focusing on what has to be the perfect feeding lie against the left bank some 80-plus feet away. Presto, the "three Ds" come into play--downstream wind, downstream flow, and the double-Spey slow, almost languid rolling cast that ends with an upstream reach and a minor mend. The size 22 cannot be seen at that distance, of course, but the brown and rich amber of the Loch Ness, Nessie-sized brown trout rolling at it shines out like the gold dreams in a Conquistador's eyes. Oh, sweet mystery of life, thinks Max (that's me), I've found you at last. A straight overhead cast follows, complete with a small tug as Max (that must be some other guy) drops his backcast and leaves the one and only two hatch-matchers attached to the

grass somewhere on the bank behind him. The other "three-Ds" come into play--disbelief, disgust, and disillusionment, followed by reel-up, disassembly, and a short hike up the hill.

We are no strangers to the Conejos--for Randy and Max this was trip number eight or nine, and the third for Doug. The river is one of the most varied anywhere--from the meadow at the high end, through narrow canyon walls, and ending up with long glides and gentle riffles in the lower section. There's lots of public access, the town of Antonito has two restaurants (hope you like Mexican style food), one grocery, two liquor stores, and three medicinal/recreational "dispensaries."

The meadow, as fished by Two Bears and photographed by Doug Goodman:



Report Presented by Sam

Fished Louisiana marsh and lake Ponchartrain

Fellow member Brett Bruner and I drove down to New Orleans for some fantastic food and to try our hands at fly fishing for Jack Crevalle. The Jacks are very large down there and once you get them on they are more than a handful to land. Getting them to take the fly was difficult, because they are constantly swimming extremely fast chasing bait fish. Standing on the casting deck you are looking for a wake or bait fish jumping out of the water. Cast ahead of the wake and hope that the fish doesn't change direction, which they are constantly doing. Then strip the fly back as fast as you can. No bite, cast again and hope that the fly line you just stripped back doesn't get tangled on the trolling motor or the stripping basket or the rods in the storage bins or the gear in the boat. With the wind blowing 20-25 mph, the boat moving and a fast swimming fish.. nothing to it.. try it sometime then let me know.

The first day we couldn't fish for Jacks because the wind wasn't right. So we went out for some Red fishing. The water was dirty from the wind beating the banks so seeing them was difficult. When we did manage to see some, we were on top of them so the catching was pretty poor. We found more Alligator Gar than Redfish. Brett managed to finally hook up a couple of Gar, but lost them when they came off. He had good strip hook sets, but the hook didn't penetrate enough to get the barb in. When

the second one came off I checked his hook to see how sharp it was. I dug into my bag to get the stone and fix the problem. The next one didn't come off... if you look close at the photo the hook is completely through the top part of the mouth.



The second day, Brett's back was killing him so he stayed in the hotel to try to heal up so he could at least fish the third day. The guide (Brandon) and I went to a different part of the marsh on the second day, but the water was still dirty and the wind was blowing harder than it did the first day. I put a small Red in the boat and an Alligator Gar that morning. We saw true alligator and some huge Gar that were about 6 feet long. The Gator poked his head up right in front of the boat and was only about 10 feet away. After lunch we headed out to the outer banks looking for Red Fish. We were on the last bit of marsh, nothing but 25 MPH white capped water was on the other side, but we found water that was clear enough to see and allowed us to set up on the fish. I managed to put 5 more Reds in the boat that afternoon, but none of them were big. 7-8 pounds would have been the largest.



The last Red Fish of the day

The third day the wind was right for Jack Crevalle fishing. After a bit of maneuvering under the road bridge and the very low railroad bridge, (we had to take the casting brace off the deck to be able to get under the bridge), we were on our way to find Jacks. We were throwing a strange looking and difficult casting popping bug. Brett had the first one on and it was off in no time. I managed to get one to take a streamer and I thought I had set the hook hard, but it too came off. We saw several, but we couldn't get on them in time to get takes. The afternoon rolled around and we decided to change

locations. We managed to find some Jacks busting bait fish and it was just a matter of getting to the school fast enough before they went back down. These schools of Jacks probably had 50 to 100 fish in them and getting a take was easy if you could get the fly close enough to the school while they were on top which was only about a minute or two at the most. Brett hooked up three times that afternoon and his line broke three times. he wasn't a happy camper. I finally got a good hook set and it was all I could do to keep this damn fish from pulling me overboard. We were using a 12wt rod and this brute had it bent over double. At one point Brett grabbed the back of my shirt to help keep me from falling in.



Jacks are not pretty or good to eat, but they are the hardest pulling fish I have ever had on the end of my line.

On the 24th of August I took a photo of a Timber Rattle Snake swimming across the 11 point river. I have never seen or heard of anyone seeing a rattlesnake swim the river. And to see two in one day was unbelievable. The first one we saw was the largest and it was about 5 ft.



This was the smaller of the two about 3 ½ – 4 foot long.

River Conditions The local streams are still in good shape with good flows except the small creeks. As the weather cools at night, be careful around rocks, paved and unpaved roads and sidewalks in the evening and after dark. Snakes like copperheads like to crawl out on them to keep warm after a nice sunny day.





RiverRap

October 31, 2016

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Tuesday November 1 Fly Tying

Saturday November 19 Monthly meeting & Freeze Your Trout Off

Our November Happenings

Tuesday 1 Nov Tyin' & Lyin' Rolla Public Library. It's almost time to start hitting the trout parks for Winter Catch & Release. Tie up some trout flies!

Saturday Nov 19 Regular Meeting and Club Outing at Bennett Springs. We usually meet up in zone 1 just below the falls for lunch and our meeting.

Hello All,

Hopefully by now you all have heard that our very own Greg "Max" Maxwell has passed away (if you haven't I apologize for letting you know via email. Call me if you would like details.) As of this writing I have heard of no formal memorial in honor of him.



Greg "Max" Maxwell

What I would like to propose is we as a club gather at the Freeze Your Trout Off on November 19 and have a bowl of chili and a sip of his favorite adult beverage of choice in his honor. For those of you who don't know, Max use to always cook us a chili from scratch in his Dutch oven but would add a little secret ingredient from a silver flask he would bring for just such a thing. Everyone else would bring sides, etc., etc. This is just a way for the club to say an informal goodbye to an old friend.

Our gathering for November is at Bennett Springs State Park on November 19th. We'll eat around noon-ish. Boot has volunteered to cook the Chili. Everyone else is asked to bring sides. Todd usually has the cornbread covered. Tightlines!

Louisa Runnalls

Fishing Reports:

Short Report Presented by Jerry



I caught these with fly rod at Dallas, :-)

Report Presented by Todd

I didn't get a length measurement, but from the grip-and-grin I would guess it is about 19"-20" with a pretty good girth. I don't know what weight that translates to.

We were casting to some rising fish. I just wanted to get Reggie and Herb onto some wild ones. When the hatch died off, I poked around in my fly box for something I could go deeper with. I ended up with a tiny secret fly under an indicator. Something I thought was a piece of a tree moved, my I indicator stopped, and I set the hook.

It's definitely the biggest rainbow I've landed on the Little Piney. I have broken off fish of comparable size in that stretch before.



Report Presented by Sam

My annual Steelhead trip to Michigan was last week and despite one day of bad weather it was a nice week. Frost on the windshield and ice in the guides Monday and Tuesday morning, but warmed up to upper 40s in the afternoon. Wednesday was miserable weather, 32 degrees, wind blowing 20, rain sleet and snow and the largest fish of the week was caught in that mess, a 13lb female. Monday we hooked 5 and landed 2, Tuesday I hooked 9 and landed 6. My friend Barry hooked 4 and landed 2. Wednesday I hooked 2 and landed 2, one being the 13 pounder, and Barry hooked two. Thursday was slow with just three between us and I only had 1. Friday I hooked 5 and landed 4 and Barry hooked 2 and landed 1. All of the steelhead we caught in the last three days were 8-10 lbs with the exception of the 13 pounder. The first couple of days we caught some smaller ones in the 4-6 lb range and a few in the 7-8 lb range, but they were all fresh run chrome sided and jumped and ran like crazy. The darker fish were all in the upper part of the system, so they must have come up with the earlier salmon runs in September. The last two days the water darkened up from the rain sleet and snow on Wednesday that put a ton of leaves in the river and turned over the older leaves on the bottom increasing the tannins in the stream. It was difficult to see the logs and submerged trees on the last two days and I ended up hanging up and breaking off 24 times. The water wasn't dirty it was more like fishing in stained tea.



I'm Reading the weight on my Boga grip to see if this one tops my 13.5 personal record.

River Conditions The local streams are still in good shape with good flows except the small creeks. As the weather cools at night, be careful around rocks, paved and unpaved roads and sidewalks in the evening and after dark. Snakes like copperheads like to crawl out on them to keep warm after a nice sunny day.





RiverRap

November 30, 2016

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Tuesday December 6 Fly Tying

Saturday December 10 club outing Montauk Park

Saturday December 17 club outing Maramec Spring

Tuesday December 20 monthly meeting

Our December Happenings

Tuesday 1 Nov Tying' & Lying' Rolla Public Library. Starts at 6:00

Saturday Dec 10 club outing at Montauk Park. Meet up at the lodge around 8:00 and we can decide where to go from there. The lodge lunch counter is usually open, but again – good idea to bring your lunch!

Saturday Dec 17 club outing at Maramec Spring Park Meet up in the parking lot around 8:00

Saturday Dec 20 Regular Meeting at Town Suites in St Robert. Starts at 6:30

On November 17th club members had the opportunity to assist the US Army Prime Power School (USAPPS) with their “Organizational Day” activities. Herb and Reggie set up tying vises and assisted members of the USAPPS in tying various flies. Skills of those that dropped in varied from beginner to advance. However, all that tied that day were mostly interested in which fly would prove to be successful on the local streams. Eight faculty/staff members from the USAPPS and two students stopped by the tying station and about 25 flies were tied during the three hours of the activity. It is hoped we have stirred some interest in the club as well as advanced some knowledge in the sport.



Information provided by Herb

Club Meeting 19 November 2016, Bennett Spring State Park Lebanon Missouri

Meeting called to order at 12:35 PM, quorum was established (8 members present). One visitor present. The meeting coincided with the annual "Freeze Your Trout Off".

The business that was acted upon or placed on the agenda for action was the memoriam for G.A. "Max" Maxwell. The membership decided to donate a St. Croix Rod and matching case built by Reggie Kalous, a donated reel that matches the rod, and the membership would tie flies for a fly box. All items will be donated as a fishing package to Project Healing Waters in memory of Max. The club will pay for Reggie's materials and labor.

The membership has been asked to tie six copies of one fly from a list (provided in a future email) or one of their favorites. (Herb is coordinating so check with him if you need to know which flies to ty.)

Submitted by Herbert Turner

Some Membership Humor By our dearly departed friend Max

Max had a gift for writing and I tried to convince him to do more writing as I and I'm sure others enjoyed reading it. The following was conceived and written by Max back in 1992. It has to do with a club within the club. (The following was sent to me by Lou and I had to convert the PDF files to word, so there may be some inconsistency, please no critique)

Thank you for sharing LOU

Caddis Shadow Fly Tyers Circle

1. **Bylaws.** Bylaws are too damn official-sounding. These are rules, and if we don't like them we can go someplace else.

a. Changes to the rules. If enough people don't like something we'll change it.No sweat.

b. New rules. Be real careful about new rules. New rules tend to get fussy. If there are more rules than fill one page, we're doing something wrong. See rule 1.a.

2. Meetings. Meetings fall on the Tuesdays between the weeks that the RffA has meetings. This keeps us busy. Meetings should be held at somebody's house on a mutually agreed-upon informal rotation.

3. fishing and tying. fishing and tying is something we do for intense personal pleasure. It is not a contest.

4. Eating and drinking. See rule 3.

5. Hosting. See rule 3.

a. Chips and salsa would be nice. A truly expansive host might provide both mild and hot salsa.

b. In the event we meet in one place continually, all hosting requirements are suspended. Members will bring their own (nice guys will bring enough to share).

6. Officers: We need two officers -- the Grand Caddis and the Exchequer. The officers will be selected annually (or as needed) by fate. fate will take the form of picking doll's eyes from a hat. The member who is selected by fate through getting the jaundiced yellow eye is the loser and has to be the officer for next year. fate should select the Grand Caddis first and the Exchequer last. The Exchequer holds the money; nobody knows what the Grand Caddis does.

a. Those who were either officer during the year before can't be either officer for the next year. In fact, they can't even dip into the hat. This keeps us honest.

b. Terms of office should begin on April fools' Day. This brings the proper air of solemnity to the occasion.

c. The Grand Caddis may be required to "hatch" at an appropriate moment during the annual RffA banquet. This will consist of putting on the official grand Caddis silly hat and loudly declaring oneself ready to fly upstream and oviposit. The Exchequer should loudly volunteer to hold his coat. This should be the only time the general public gains knowledge of these two twits.

7. Money: We don't have dues. If everybody thinks we should do something that costs money, we figure out how much it costs and everybody antes up. The charter members anted up five bucks apiece just to get the thing rolling.

8. New Members: A new member is defined as someone who makes two consecutive meetings and antes up five bucks to the Exchequer.

9. The Prime Directive: If it isn't fun, why do it?

CHAPTER OF THE CADDIS SHADOW FLY TYERS

WE THE UNDERSIGNED. DUELY ASSYMBLED HEARBY ESTABLISH THIS CHARTER OF THE CADDIS SHADOW FLY TYERS ON THIS FOURTEENTH DAY OF APRIL, NINETEEN HUNDRED NINETY TWO.

MAY THE SHADOW OF THE CADDIS BE WITH US

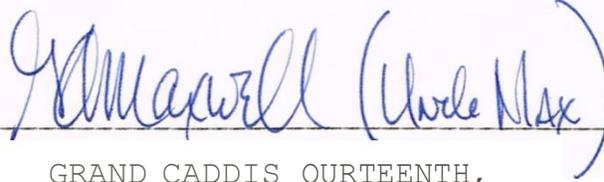
THE SOLE PURPOSE OF THIS ENTITY IS TO PERPETUATE AND PROMOTE THE GENTLE ART OF FLY TYING. IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR STATEMENT OF PURPOSE WE SHALL ASSYMBLE TWICE MONTHLY MORE OR LESS TO DEMONSTRATE, TEACH AND SHARE OUR TECHNIQUES AND SOLUTIONS WITH THOSE WITHIN THE WALLS OF THE OVIPOSITORIUM, IN THE GENTLE YET SOMETIMS MAD OR DRUNKEN ART OF ENTOMOLOGY IMPRESSIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS.

WEREWITH THE AFFORMENTIONED ORGANIZATION WITH BOOZE IN HAND SHALL REMAIN SUCH UNTIL SUCH TIME AS ALL THE CHARTER CADDISES AGREE TO DISBAND AND DESIST.

MAY THE SHADOW OF THE CADDIS BE WITH US. AND MAY OUR TALENTS BE OVIPOSITED TO OTHERS WITHIN THIS OVIPOSITORIUM IN SUCH A FASHION AS THE BROTHERS OR EVEN SISTERS SEE FIT.

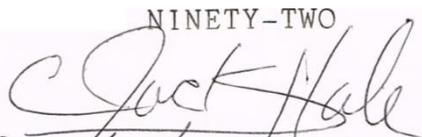
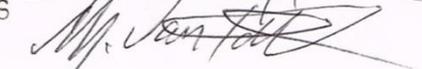
MAY THE SHADOW OF THE CADDIS BE WITH US. MAY OUR CUPS OF INTOXICANT NEVER RUN DRY.

MAY OUR THREAD NEVER SEVER, AND MAY NEVER RUN DRY THE COMRADERY OF THE CADDIS SHADOW FLY TYERS


GRAND CADDIS OURTEENTH,

APRIL



NINETY-TWO

CHARTER MEMBERS


Fishing Reports

Reports Presented by Sam No one else sent any so you have dredge through mine I'm not sure how everyone else did at our last club outing, but I had a pretty good day. 10 smallmouth of which a half dozen were 15-16 inches, 12 large goggle eye, 3 trout, one twelve inch chub and an eighteen inch white sucker.



18" sucker



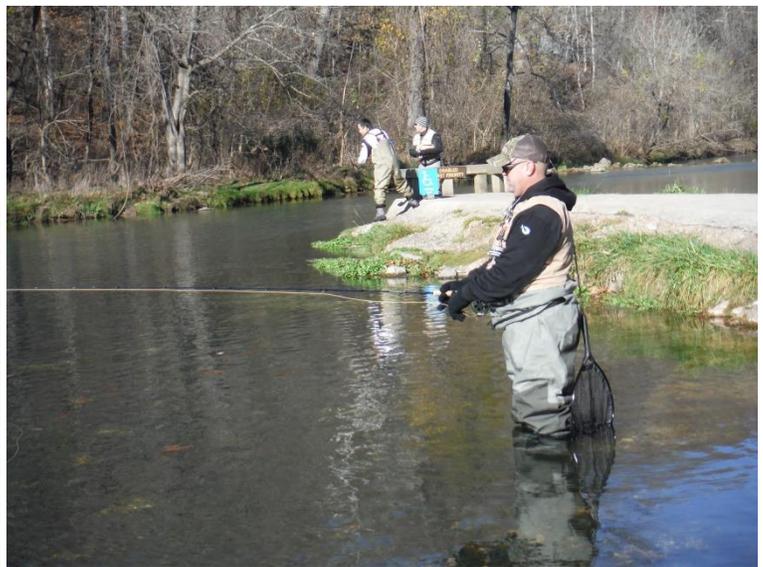
Sam Landing a smallmouth



Todd swinging flies at the bridge



Lou's little football



Reggie above handicap ramp in zone 1

Chestnut Lamprey and Goggle Eye

Information borrowed from MDC

Family: Petromyzontidae (lampreys) in the class Agnatha (jawless vertebrates)

Description: Chestnut colored eel-like fish that have a cartilaginous, boneless skeleton. Adults have well-developed, rasp like oral disc, seven pore like gill openings, no paired fins and a single nostril. The ammocoetes (the juvenile forms) are eyeless and have a horseshoe-shaped hood as a mouth.

Size: Adult length: 10-12 inches; larvae can be 6 inches or more.

I was fishing in the Gasconade River a couple of weeks back and landed a large goggle eye with a lamprey attached to its back. The lamprey had not been there for very long because it fell off when the fish flopped on the bottom of the boat. Once they get a good hold they are very difficult to detach. This lamprey, after a few photos, became fish food. I only catch about one fish a year with a lamprey attached and they are either a smallmouth or goggle eye. I have never found one on a trout. Caution is necessary when handling lamprey because they can attach to just about anything that touches their mouth including your hand.



Dunk Bag

Lou and I have mentioned "Dunk Bag" in the past, just in case you have an accidental fall. Yesterday I was fishing with a gentleman from KC. Two hours into the fishing trip he fell in over his waders. The situation brought to light a few things:

One wading belt sometimes isn't enough in the winter. It is always better to have two that fit snug on your chest and waist and if not two then the one you have should be as tight as you can possibly stand it.

Pockets on a vest left zipped open.... If you take a dunk they fill up immediately,,, any floatable items may float out,,, and you have instant weight added... zipped shut they take on water. but not instantly.

Cotton Kills... Do not wear cotton in the winter especially jeans.. if it gets wet it stays wet and loses all of the insulation. Wool or polyester (fleece) is much better and dress in layers.

In my winter “dunk bag” I keep extra under ware, socks, two pair of heavy sweat pants, two pair of heavy sweat shirts, emergency reflective blanket, towels and a fire starter. I thought yesterday that he was going to dry off, change into my extra clothes and keep fishing, that’s why I dried out his waders. He went home!... drove 2.5 hours to get there, fished two hours and drove 2.5 hours home... being prepared would have saved the day for him.

Coffee or tea in the winter makes you pee too much and it is very inconvenient to take off all those clothes over and over again especially if it is raining or snowing and 20 degrees. I prefer milk or hot chocolate made with milk... I rehydrate with lots of water and Gatorade after I finish fishing. IF you have to have your coffee, keep it to a moderate amount.

Only carry enough gear on you that you will use. If you know what you will be fishing with take it and leave the rest in the truck, especially if the truck is parked close. Excess boxes and anything else that you won’t use is needless weight that adds up over several hours of fishing. That’s why I don’t use a vest anymore. I found myself filling all the pockets and I was only using a few things. Less can be more.



I stayed and fished yesterday after he left, since I was already there. This 10 ½ goggle eye was the largest of the 40 to 50 that I caught. Once I found them it was a take on virtually every cast.

River Conditions The local streams are getting a little low and all of them are very clear. Smaller tippet size will produce much better when the water is this clear, especially for areas that get a lot of fishing pressure. The Olives are thinning out and giving way to Midges as the predominate hatching insect. Look for hatches occurring where the sun hits the water and warms it a few degrees. The bright sun on the water is usually not a good thing when it comes to fishing, except in the winter

