



RiverRap

December 30, 2016

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Tuesday 3 January Tying' & Lying' Rolla Public Library. Starts at 6:30

Saturday January 14 Club outing Little Piney Hwy 63 bridge

Tuesday January 17 Regular Meeting at Town Suites in St Robert. Starts at 6:30

Sunday January 22 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 and normally closes at 2:00 PM on Sunday, but again – good idea to bring your lunch!

Other Events of Interest:

14 Jan Oklahoma Fly Fishers 7th Annual Tying Extravaganza Creek County Fair Grounds near Sapulpa Oklahoma.

Fly Tying at J Cook

Mark Van Patten was down at J Cook's store (**803 West Scenic Rivers Blvd, Salem**) the 13th conducting a beginner fly tying class. Herb stopped in just to see Mark, get some new pointers, and work a little recruitment for the club. There were seven new to tying in attendance. Mark did a great job by providing some history on each fly, the flies' impressionistic character, and how it's fished. He provided a step by step demonstration, then a follows step by step tying, and finally each participant tied the fly for a second time and he worked with each person individually as they work and if they were having a problem. Some very clean flies were tied. There were two patterns tied during the two and one-half hour class. The two patterns were of course the old reliable Woolly Bugger and a modified Pheasant Tail Nymph.

The store was running a special at the same time, 15% off on all fly tying material for all participating in the class. Thanks to J Cook for hosting the event and Mark Van Patten for such a wonderful job

Catch and Release Tips presented by Herb

Was spending some time reading through some older fishing articles this month due to the poor weather conditions and ran across **Catch and Release Fishing: 10 Tips for a Successful Release** by Chad Shmukler. The article discusses the fisherman practicing catch and release

should consider more than just releasing the fish but releasing in a manner that takes all reasonable measures to insure that once released the fish will survive and live on to be caught another-day. Mr. Shmukler makes it clear that simply releasing a fish does little to insure its survival.

Mr. Shmukler provided 10 tips for insuring much success in the catch and release process. Many of you know these tips and can recite the rule by verse. However, with the time of year we are dealing with and the unforeseen stress we might be putting on the fish of our pursuit I felt it was time to take a quick look.

Number 1: Use Crimped or Barbless Hooks (obviously)

Number 2: You are No Surgeon – If your fish take s the hook deep and can't easily be removed, just cut the leader/tippet as close as you safely can and leave the hook in.

Number 3: Horse It In – Fight and land fish as quickly as you can.

Number 4: Use a Rubber Net – Landing nets provide one of the few reliable ways to release a fish without handling the fish and also allows for quicker landing of fish.

Number 5: Get Wet - We your hands if handling the fish.

Number 6: Take Care of the Head and Eyes

Number 7: Avoid the Shore – Putting fish on shore causes all kinds of problems.

Number 8: 5 Second Rule – Well-rooted science shows us the increase in mortality rate when fish are out of the water for more than 5 seconds. If you are trying for a picture keep trying but lest the fish rest in water between attempts.

Number 9: Revive Properly

Number 10: Watch the Thermometer

The ten tips are well supported by field study references.

This may be old news to all but as we get more skilled sometimes we get a little complacent.

Club Meeting 20 December 2016

Roubidoux Fly Fishers Monthly Meeting Report December 2016

Meeting 20 December 2016, Town Suites St. Robert

Meeting called to order 6:30 PM, a quorum was established (7 members present). One visitor present.

- Brett Bruner provided the club with the Department of Treasury documents dated 7 December 2016 establishing the RFFA as incorporated as a public charity under the

provisions of IRC 501(c)(3). Brett has officially taken on the role of club Treasurer and will be maintaining and filing all reports annually to maintain this status.

- Sam Potter has updated the RFFA web site with current contact information, listed some new businesses that are affiliating with the club, and included new photos and the current River Rap.
- Todd Sparks has created a Google calendar that can be shared with anyone with a gmail account.
- Dues are due in January.
- We will be tying at J Cook's shop, 803 Scenic Rivers Blvd. Salem Missouri, 7 February instead of the Rolla Public Library. A headcount of possible attendees will be provided to Mr. Cook by Herb.
- The club has a booth at the St. Robert Outdoor Sportsman Show 10-11 march. We will need worker to man the booth from 5-8 PM on the 10th and from 10 AM to 5 PM on the 11th. Please let Herb or Lou know if you can help out.
- Sam Potter discussed the information that he was able to gather during a meeting this month about the shutting down of three gauging stations, 2 stations on the Roubidoux and two on the Big Piney.
- Several organizations are working to find funding to prevent the total loss of these gauges. The club will be watching this situation closely.

Charlene & Herb Turner

The Turner Clan

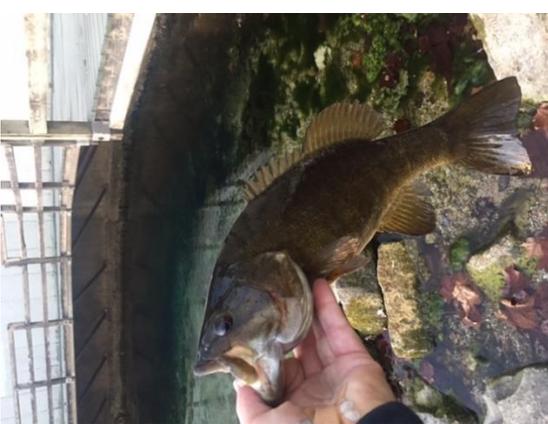
Fishing Report Presented by Herb

Todd, Herb, and Mike Elliott (potential new member) headed to Montauk 16 December to try their luck. Mike had never fish Montauk so it was an important event. The morning was a cold 23 degrees and overcast with a light mist on and off. The group had some success on small midges, scuds and orange squirmy wormies. Todd and Mike catching at least a baker's dozen each and Herb had a good day for Herb. By 10:30 the group had taken their toll on the fish and the weather had taken its toll on the group they packed up and headed home before the bad weather arrived.

Roubidoux Fishing Report

Presented by Herb

One of our potential new members Mike Elliott was fishing on the Roubidoux the afternoon of 1 December and the morning of 2 Dec and had some real luck. The trout were taken as catch and release near the city park the morning of 2 Dec and the bass was taken at the spring on the 1st.



Frost Flowers Photos provided by Todd

A **frost flower** is formed when thin layers of ice are extruded from long-stemmed plants in autumn or early winter. The thin layers of ice are often formed into exquisite patterns that curl into "petals" that resemble **flowers**.

I told Todd that I almost always find these in November and I have never seen them this late in the year.



I knew the fishing was going to be tough with the streams low and very clear, but the weather forecast was warm with good cloud cover so I hooked up the canoe and headed south to the Eleven Point River. I don't believe the weatherman was exactly right because it never did get as warm as predicted. And I was correct about the fishing being tough. I started fishing about 9:00 and probably got 7 or 8 to the boat by 3:30. From 3:30 to 5:00 it was like a switch was turned on. At 3:30 I made four casts and hooked four, but only got three of them to the boat. One was a colorful streamborn rainbow, about 16 inches. The only reason I knew exactly what time it started, was because I was looking at my watch to see how much time I had left to fish



before I needed to head home.

I brought 10 more to the boat and lost another 3 by 5:00. The prize of the day was a very nice smallmouth that was pushing 17 or 18". By the time I got home it was 7:30 and I was ready to eat supper and head to bed. The boat and gear cleanup would have to wait until tomorrow.



River Conditions The local streams are very 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. Midges are the # 1 hatching insect in the winter. Look for hatches occurring where the sun hits the water and warms it a few degrees. Most of the midges are taken as they rise to surface or just below the surface as they try to break through the surface tension. The bright sun on the water is usually not a good thing when it comes to fishing, except in the winter when it warms the water one or two degrees and brings on hatches.





RiverRap

January 29, 2017

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Saturday 4 February Club outing Maramec Spring Park 8:00

Tuesday 7 February Tying' & Lying' J Cook's Shop Salem. 6:30

Sunday February 19 Club outing Little Piney Hwy 63 bridge

Tuesday February 21 Regular Meeting at Town Suites in St Robert. Starts at 6:30

Other Events of Interest:

Ozark Fly Fishers Montauk FYAO Club Outing 10-12 Feb

Max written by Mark Van Patton

Max was one of the early members of the RFFA and help to establish the Caddis Shadow Fly Tiers tying circle, The CSFT used to meet at Max's house most of the time. We moved it around some but his basement was routinely where we met. He generally had some special something for us to try. In addition to chips and salsa, our regular fare, he would bring bootleg plum brandy back from his trips to Germany. I remember him telling us the old Gentleman that distilled the very stout liquor was known to start his tractor with it on very cold mornings. As the level in the brandy bottle lowered, the flies at the vise became more, well, maybe creative would be the kind word. I still have a tie he brought back from Germany. He decided that as fly anglers we should all dress as gentlemen since Fly Fishing is considered the gentle sport. He outfitted all of the CSFT circle with a dark green tie with a small dry fly embroidered on it. We would all wear our tie and meet at the Roubidoux for an afternoon of fly fishing. There we all stood hip deep in the water all in a row. People walking along Phippen road would stop to watch. Kids would ask their moms "why are those guys all wearing the same tie? To which mom would say, "Don't look at them, they may be crazy people." One time he brought an unusual device back from Germany that we dubbed the snot banger. More on that will be provided in a longer story about Max for the Newsletter. Needless to say Max was always full of surprises and entertaining with his many great adventures.

Max was always ready to help kids learn to tie a fly. In the early years of the RFFA he was instrumental in establishing a weekly fly tying class for some wayward kids in a detention center in Waynesville. A number of the members would work with the kids and Max, who was at that time pushing the 300 pound mark and standing at 6'3" was a intimidating figure. He would walk behind the tiers letting the kids know they were in peril of their lives if they acted up. After all we were trusting them with sharp instruments. Not once did we have any problems. After our sessions were completed the counselors told us that the fly tying classes were the best therapy the kids had experienced and that they were amazed at how well they behaved while in the classes. That was very unusual as they had not had the same experience while working with the kids. However they didn't have Max standing in the back of the room with "the look."

Anyone who has experienced his Goulash on a cold day at a trout stream knows that Max could whip a tasty warm meal on the tail gate of his pickup that would thaw the ice off your guides. We used to tease him about the way he rigged up every kind of device to make fishing an integral part of his vehicle. When he bought a new truck or SUV he would outfit it rod hangers, sleeping quarter, medical facility, stock investment firm and

full service kitchen. Well maybe not the stock investment firm. We called it “Maximizing.” Max and a good cigar are synonymous. When the 20th Anniversary video for the Missouri Stream Team was created they captured a great close-up of Max with a cigar. The state being the state, they wanted to leave that footage out. I explained that as an integral player in the early formation of the Stream Team Program it would be heresy to leave it out and it stayed. Max was a friend to everyone and never had a negative word to say about anyone. He was a Mans Man and would never leave a friend in a lurch. If you needed him, he was there.

Fly Tying and Lying

Our first Tying’ and Lying’ of the New Year was well attended. Sam stopped in after a long day and handed out TFS 9395 #4 hooks. Some of the flies tied during the session were a little different than our usual choices. Todd started the night with a modified “Squirmy Wormy”. Sam had some questions about use and what Agents might say about it. The Squirmy Wormy is one of those flies that might be slightly embarrassing to tie on, but you’ll get over that once you’ve caught a few fish on it. Originally designed by Dave Hise of Caster’s Fly Shop in Hickory, North Carolina (although he spelled it “Wormie”), the fly is an obvious variation on the famed San Juan Worm.



Herb was busy with the other non-traditional fly of the night the “Mop ‘n’ Glo”. This fly was introduced to the fly tying community by Tim Flagler of Tightline Productions in 2015. In 2016 this fly was featured in an article in the Wall Street Journal by Justin Scheck “**Fly Fishing Renegades Are Cleaning Up—With Kitchen Mops**”. Here is an excerpt from the article “In a tradition-bound sport, where purists lure fish with tiny ersatz insects crafted of feathers and fur, the mop fly doesn’t look much like a bug. In an affront to tradition, it instead looks exactly like what it is: a fuzzy strand cut from a cheap mop and tied to a hook.” It does catch fish.



Lou was tying more traditionally. She was busy with the Bug Eyed Bugger. This was the only fly in her box the week before that fish were even looking at.



When Art (a new member) showed up with all kinds of materials as a new tier Todd stepped in and guided him through the tying of the Briminator which is a great Bluegill fly and a great tying start for the beginner.



Linda showed up for moral support. Some of the discussion was about February tying at J Cook's shop in Salem, Mo. Mr. Cook has provided us the opportunity for tying in his shop on February 7th at 6:30. Right at the moment it looks as if most of the club is showing up for the event.

Todd shared that Loon Outdoors hosted Fly Tying 101 Live as a streaming event on Thursday evenings in January. "Fly Tying 101," is a live streaming fly tying demonstration geared toward the beginner tier. The patterns cover a breadth of styles, materials, and species of fish in which they'd target, each episode trends toward the intermediate or advanced tier.

The four (4) episodes aired Thursday nights at 6 pm (PST) at loonoutdoors.com/fly-tying-101 and covered 5 patterns in each episode that demonstrate techniques that are foundational to ^{fly} tying. Once episodes concluded they are available to re-watch on the Fly Tying 101 webpage. The first episode covered the San Juan Worm, the Woolly Bugger, the Bead Head Caddis, the Black Ant Dry Fly and the Brassie. There was some technical problems with this first episode but were cleared up in episode two.

Tools List

Vise
Bobbin
Scissors
Bodkin
Hackle Pliers

Hair Stacker
Whip Finish Tool
Head Cement

Club Meeting 17 January 2017

Roubidoux Fly Fishers Monthly Meeting Report

Meeting 17 January 2017, Town Suites St. Robert Missouri

Meeting called to order at 6:45 PM, quorum was established (8 members present). No business was acted upon or placed on the agenda for action.

Reports:

Brett provided a status report on the filing of our Form 990N to the Internal Revenue Service. The RFFA annual Form 990N was submitted 4 January 2017 and is pending acceptance by the infernal (internal) revenue service. As a small tax-exempt organizations whose annual gross receipts are normally \$50,000 or less we (the RFFA) are required to electronically submit Form 990-N, also known as the e-Postcard, by the 15th day of the 5th month after the close of your tax year.

Discussion Points (the following items were discussed and some may be acted upon in later meetings):

Reggie brought up corporate sponsorships and corporate donations. The group agreed before we look into solicitation of funds from vendors or setup corporate sponsorship the club needs to decide on funded events sponsored by the club and/or assistance to philanthropic groups that could use our skills, finical support and contacts. It was agreed that members would bring back to the next meeting (21 February) contact information and details about various philanthropic groups whose mission supports some of our clubs goals.

Reminder tying in February will be held at J Cook's Shop in Salem, Missouri.

Mark Van Patten has a new business logo.

Volunteers are still needed to assist with the St. Robert Outdoor Show 10-11 March.

Linda provided the club with information on some publicity opportunities the club might be interested in by using Fidelity Communications. Linda said she would pursue more details for the club.

Greg "Max" Maxwell's memoriam materials are all in. Reggie and Herb will be packing it all up for shipment to the Heartland Regional Coordinator of Project Healing Waters.

Lou shared information on the upcoming Tri Lakes FF Expo April 8, 2017.

Activities Planned and Schedules

Meetings and Tying dates:

7 Feb Fly Tying a J Cook's Shop in Salem

21 Feb Monthly Meeting

Fishing Dates and Locations:

4 Feb Fishing Outing Maramec Spring Park

19 Feb Fishing Outing Current River meet at Tan Vat

Ozark Fly Fishers Montauk FYAO Club Outing 10-12 Feb

2017 International Fly Fishing Fair August 1-5, 2017 Livingston Montana

Submitted by
Herbert Turner

Fishing Report Presented by Herb

With Saturday being such a nice day Mike decided to go out in the afternoon to Bennett Springs to try his luck. He spent a few hours fishing from the bridge back up to the spring. There was some success on midges. The park was crowed and there was lots of pressure on the fish population. Mike stated that he caught 12 for the day and the big catch of the day was his biggest trout ever. He decided to go back Sunday and try his luck. Even though he stayed dry for the few hours he was there no joy.



Montauk Fishing Report Presented by Herb

Reggie, Todd and Herb met up at Montauk on 22 January as part of our scheduled fishing outing for the month. The day started comfortable at 51 degrees and overcast and the water was clear. Reggie brought first blood on a "Glo-Bug" (salmon egg) pattern. Conditions worsened within the first hour to on an off drizzle and rain. The area around the raceways as well as some spots near the handicap rap by the spring had been torn up by some construction equipment. By 10 the water was starting to get cloudy due to the runoff from these two areas. Herb's day was nothing to write home about but he enjoyed the time out. By 10:15 rain and thunder had moved in and the group decided to call it a day. Todd took some last few casts with Murdich Minnow pattern to see if he could make one of the large trout mad and sure enough success. Herb's day was nothing to write home about but he enjoyed the time out.





Things Too Enjoy Other Than Fish When Fishing by Sam

We all enjoy catching fish, but there is so much more to being out on the stream other than the fish that needs to be appreciated and enjoyed. Winter fishing opens up the forest and the sky to hidden treasures we miss in the spring summer and fall. These past three weeks I have counted a dozen eagles, all of them bald eagles with a mixture of mature and immature birds. The caves in the bluffs along the rivers come into view and stir up imaginations of Indians and cave dwellers. Mink, Muskrat, Beaver and a seldom seen Otter move along the river bank slowly with eyes fixed on the boat and your movements. Blue Heron, King Fishers and seasonal ducks fly over and occasionally land close enough or fly low enough to tell what kind they are.



Beaver huts on the rivers around here are piles of sticks on or over an opening that is in the riverbank. The actual den is back under the ground. Beaver dams are known to most as being constructed with mud and sticks, but around here Beavers also use rocks in the construction of the dams. Sometimes the rocks are the size of a volleyball and they can be that size on the top of the dam. I have no idea how they can move rocks this big. I assume they hold them against their chest and walk on their back feet. Amazing critters.

I Caught several trout and smallmouth this month, but nothing very big. The largest fish I landed this month was a 16 inch wild rainbow that I caught today.



River Conditions The local streams are up from last month and clearing now that they are dropping. River conditions last week were very good for fishing with just the right amount of color. The Gasconade was still muddy when I crossed it yesterday. It should be good for fishing by mid week.





RiverRap

February 28, 2017

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Tuesday March 7 Tying' & Lying' Rolla Public Library. 6:30

Sunday March 12 Club outing to Blackwell Lake, Indian Trail CA

Sunday March 19 Club outing Meramec River below Maramec Park

Tuesday March 21 Regular Meeting at Town Suites in St Robert. Starts at 6:30

Other Events of Interest:

Club Meeting 21 January 2017

Roubidoux Fly Fishers Monthly Meeting Report ³

Meeting 21 February 2017, Towne Suites St. Robert Missouri

Meeting called to order at 6:45 PM, quorum was established (8 members present).

Discussion Points:

- Last month the club agreed to look into supporting various philanthropic groups. This month the group agreed that the club would provide assistance to the following philanthropic groups that could use our skills, financial support and contacts: BSA Troop 255 and 252; Missouri Veterans Home St. James; The Fallen Outdoors (TFO).
- Stone Mill will no longer publish release dates.
- Need digital pictures for slide show to be used at the St. Robert Outdoor Sportsman Show.
- Members need to be looking at other possible meeting sites.

Program: Todd demonstrated common fishing knots and the influence of heat (friction) on the materials.

Activities Planned and Schedules

- Meetings and Tying dates:
 - 7 March Fly Tying
 - 21 March Monthly Meeting
- Fishing Dates and Locations:
 - 12 March Fishing Outing Blackwell Lake, Indian Trail CA (bank or boat fishing)
 - 19 March Fishing Outing Meramec River downstream from park

March 10-11 St. Robert Outdoor Sportsman Show

March 23-25 North Arkansas Fly Fishers Sowbug Roundup, Mountain Home Arkansas

Submitted by
Herbert Turner

Fly Tying at J Cook's Fly Shop



Fishing Report Presented by Herb

The first club outing of February was very well attended. The day turned out to be a fun day for all that attended and for some instructional as well. Members met in the lower parking lot at Meramec Spring Park. Reggie had set up with The Fallen Outdoors group to support a fishing activity for their organization and we had one member Josh show up. Herb started him out on the water but Todd took over and Todd and Josh had a very successful day of fishing and learning; Great Job Todd. Sam spent some time with Herb teaching skills in dry fly presentations. Reggie, Lou, and Linda spent the day from one end to the other in the Park and tried their luck on many different flies.

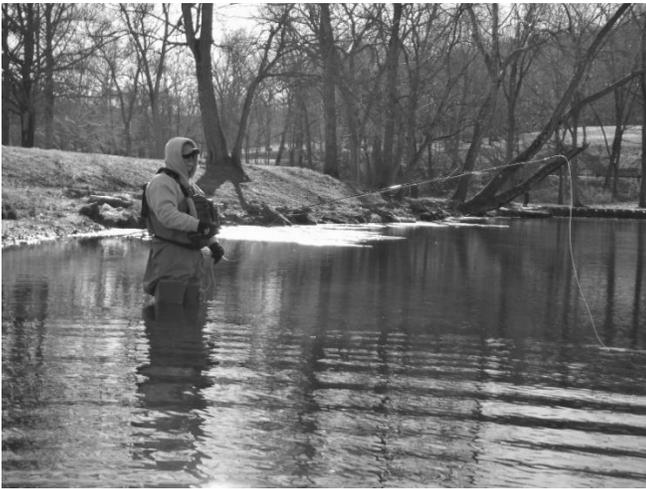


Todd instructing Josh



Lou chasing bronzeback at Maramec





Herb enjoying the nice warm day



Reggie stayed in the sun to keep the ice out of the guides

One at the Horn! A report from Bennett Springs

I figured I had time for one more cast before the horn would blow so I shot the leech I had on straight up stream. Yes, I was trying to hit the fish that had been doing some splashy rises on the head because he wouldn't bit what I was throwing. HA! Fooled him though – he hit and the horn went off. Nice fish to end a nice Monday at Bennett Springs.

Usually I wouldn't fish any of our trout parks on a Monday during winter Catch & Release simply because they have sore lips from the weekend. And I will admit it was tough fishing. First fish and second and third and I think even the fourth fish were those little shiners. Which, if fishing is really tough, they count! Then a couple rock bass cooperated and came to hand. Then a few trout. And I missed some fish. Rock Bass? Yes I was fishing from Whistle Bridge downstream, a section we usually don't get to fish. I was able to fish from there all the way down and around the corner until I ran into a guy who had obviously planted himself in the middle of the stream and was not moving. Time to go eat then change locations.

Upstream to the spring I went. There was a hatch of some miniscule little fly coming off but wasn't enough to get me to change to a dry fly. However, there was a "new" guy there that asked another fisherman what the hatch may be. The reply was a PMD size 24 or 26 with a pale yellow body should work. New guy didn't have any so the old hand graciously gave him a few. As the "new" guy tied them on along with a strike indicator and fished to no avail the other guy started catching fish after fish after fish – on a leech!!!

Tightlines!

Louisa Runnalls

Fishing Reports by Sam

Last week Brett and I fished a private lake that requires one to use the largest flies you can chuck to keep the damn little fish from swallowing your flies. I needed to ty up some musky size flies like Todd uses. Water was in the low 50s when Brett and I launched and rose to 56.5 by the afternoon. We probably caught about 40 bass, but none of them were over 13-14 inches. It was a great day none the less. The storm the night before rose the lake about 15 inches. There was a muddy slick entering the lake and half the lake was muddy when we got there. By the end of the day the muddy water was running out the drain pipe.

Today, the last day of the month, I took the afternoon noon off from cutting down 90% of my ash trees. Some of these ash trees are 60-70 feet tall. The damn Emerald Ash Borer has arrived in our state and all the ash trees are doomed unless they are treated... and it isn't cheap. So down they go and into the fire to kill the bugs.

Anyway I intended to catch some early spring Crappie this afternoon, but didn't get a single one. The bass and bluegill were very cooperative. I probably landed close to 40 bass and around 15-20 bluegill. One thing I forgot to check before I left was the wind. Throwing an 8 foot 3wt dry fly rod into 20 MPH gusts wasn't what I wanted to do, but that was where the fish were. The bass weren't big with most of them about 12-16 inches. On the other hand the bluegill were Very Big.



Things To Enjoy Other Than Fish When Fishing by Sam

More about Beavers ? come on Sam give us a break



Don't miss out on seeing this Huge Beaver Hut at Blackwell lake next week. Same side of the lake as the marina. Second cove to the south. I estimated it to be about 4 ½ maybe 5 feet tall from the water. This is the largest Beaver Hut I have ever seen.

I saw it a couple of weeks ago when I fished Blackwell. Water was still too cold and the bite was very soft and slow. Fish were suspended at 5-6 feet over 14 feet of water. Nothing but small bass to the boat that day.



Little Piney Beaver dam made from sticks and rocks



At a Private Lake this beaver dam is made from sticks and mud
Beaver dams are known to most as being constructed with mud and sticks. In the creeks around here Beavers also use rocks in the construction of the dams. Sometimes the rocks are the size of a volleyball and they can be that size on the top of the dam. I have no idea how they can move rocks this big. I assume they hold them against their chest and walk on their back feet. Amazing critters.

River Conditions The local streams are clear now that they are low. Low and clear can be tough fishing





RiverRap

March 31, 2017

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Tuesday April 4 Tying' & Lying' Rolla Public Library 1830

Wednesday April 12th Boy Scout Fly Fishing Presentation 1830

April 15 Water Quality on Roubidoux 1000

April 18 Monthly Meeting at Town Suites 1830

April 22 Club outing to Sims Valley Lake for Pickerel

April 29 Club outing to Fellows Lake for Musky

Other Events of Interest: Veterans Fishing Day Bennett Spring 0700-1930

Fly tyers needed MFTA show Branson July 28-29 check email

Club Meeting 21 March 2017

Roubidoux Fly Fishers Monthly Meeting Report

Meeting 21 March 2017, Towne Suites St. Robert Missouri

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM, quorum was established (7 members present).

Reports.

Lou sent in a financial report. The club currently has \$1817.17 in the treasury.

Current member enrollment is 21. Welcome Brian O'Fallon, Katie Dreadfulwater, Steve Antonic, and Al Bourisaw.

Business.

Membership voted to affiliate with the Conservation Federation of Missouri. Motion by Reggie and seconded by Charlene. An anonymous donor will be paying the membership fees.

Group reviewed the clubs plans and execution of our participation in the St. Robert Outdoors Sportsman Show for improvements for next year.

April 12th the club will be presenting an Introduction to Fly Fishing to the 255th and 252nd Boy Scout Troops of St. Robert. The location is the Church at 123 Boza St. Robert and the start time is 6:30 PM. We will be setting up four stations for the scouts to rotate through. We will need

all members interested in helping to show up about 15 minutes early. Watch for e-mails or contact Herb for specifics.

J Cook has offered to host tying at his shop once a quarter. We will be tying at his shop once again May 2, 2017.

Activities Planned and Schedules

The club will be conducting Water Quality Monitoring in the Roubidoux Creek at the Waynesville City Park 15 April at 10:00 AM we will gather up in the parking lot of the park near Pavilion #2 next to the stage.

- Meetings and Tying dates:
 - 4 April Fly Tying
 - 18 April Monthly Meeting
- Fishing Dates and Locations:
 - 22 April Fishing Outing Sims Valley Lake located 2.5 miles on RA highway off highway 60 between Willow Springs and Mountain View in Howell County.
https://mdc.mo.gov/sites/default/files/area_plans/2016_sims_valley_community_la_ke_area_plan_pc.pdf
 - 29 April Fishing Outing Fellows Lake four miles north of Springfield on Highway 65, 0.5 mile west on Route AA, then north on Farm Road 197. Requires an annual motorized boat permit (\$35), annual non-motorized permit (\$25) or a daily permit (\$10) which may be purchased at the marina.
<https://fishing.mdc.mo.gov/reports/fellows-lake>

Veterans' Fishing Day at Bennett Spring State Park April 7. Time: 0700-1930.

Submitted by Herbert Turner

Pulaski County Sportsmans Show

Todd and New member Katie tying her first fly.



Fishing Report Presented by Lou

College hoops in March is madness thus it's called March Madness. How they figure out who plays who when and where is beyond me. BUT not to be out down the RFFA has it's own version we call March Mayhem. The best time to chase chain pickerel is in that wonderfully fickle weather month of March. Thus we could be chasing this finny fiend of the deep on a bluebird sky day in short sleeves or we could be bundled to the nines at mid forties. We have chased them in snow and rain and sleet but not hail – YET! We have chased them on sunny days and days so cold we questioned our own sanity. We have chased them later in the year to no avail, thus we return time and time again to fickle March. We have been wounded (one got Brett good on Sims Valley a couple years ago) fighting these toothy critters, thus we learned a little respect for them and to carry LARGE rubber nets. Todd, Valley (a friend from OK) and myself hit up Blackwell Lake on the first Saturday in March to do a little pre-fishing. The weather was congenial and so were the fish for the most part. We all started the day with dreams of Master Angler Awards in our heads and of course were immediately dashed by the fishes. Valley caught the largest at 17" followed by Todd and myself with a couple 14". Todd spooked a behemoth that may have crossed the line into Master Angler territory alas once spooked it went away to sulk, never to return. I must confess – the bluegill though scattered saved my day. I caught a 10 1/4' redear which is Master Angler territory.



Notes from Todd: ATTENTION TOOTHY CRITTER AFICIONADOS: Sharpen your Hooks!

Sunday the 26th was my 3rd pickerel fishing trip to Blackwell this spring. While the warmer water temperatures brought more opportunities, I credit the higher rate of getting fish to the boat to having sharpened my hooks ahead of time. In this most recent foray, I brought 11 fish to the boat out of 16 takes. Previous landing rates were more like 1 to the boat in 6 takes. A pickerel's combination of light weight and bony mouth makes getting a good hook set relatively difficult. Take all the help you can get: sharpen your hooks!



Pickerel Flies

Tightlines!
Louisa Runnalls

Fishing Report Presented by Herb

Mike's luck at Blackwell Lake. A little blood and rain mixture produced these results



Fishing Report Presented by Lou

I Caught a Black-Tailed Devil!!!

If you have not heard by now I went to Belize for a week in February. It was a wonderful trip full of sun and fish! Permit, bonefish, barracuda, yellow jack, one definite idunno, and one of my favorites Mayan cichlids.

The permit was caught with a lot of luck – like they usually are – and some skill. We had been fishing our way down a long stretch of mangroves when we came around this little point. There in the crook of these mangroves was a small school of bonefish, happily eating on something. I cast and was too far left but didn't spook them. Cast again and was too far right, but didn't spook them. Cast again and I lined them. ARRGH!!!! But still they didn't bolt but just sort of broke up and started wandering off. That's when the guide noticed one of these things was not like the others. A permit that had been hanging out with the bonefish started to swim right past the boat. I shot a cast in front of him and with one swish of his black tail was on my fly. Strip set! Again! FISH ON!! We fought for about 15 minutes before he came to the boat. Don'

Don't ask me anything else about that day because I don't remember!

It was a great trip with friends to a faraway land with some awesome fishing. Life can hardly get better.



Tightlines!

Louisa Runnalls

Fishing Report Presented by Sam

My boat net has 18 inch opening. Not the monster I was looking for, but I'll go back. I Had the entire lake to myself. I'm Still learning the structure so it will take me some time to figure it out. 3 in the boat one lost and two cut off.



Things To Enjoy Other Than Fish When Fishing by Sam



Always take time to enjoy the things around you

River Conditions The local streams have great color now after the recent rains. Take advantage of the water conditions and get out there as much as you can.





RiverRap

May 3, 2017

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Tuesday May 2 Tying' & Lying' J Cook in Salem

Saturday May 6 Club outing to Towel Lake at Little Prairie Conservation Area

Tuesday May 16 Meeting at the Park Waynesville City Park

Roubidoux Fly Fishers Monthly Meeting Report

Meeting 18 April 2017, American Legion Post 331, 484 Saint Robert Outer Rd, St Robert, MO 65584

Meeting called to order at 6:33 PM, quorum was established (7 members present).

Reports.

- Brett sent in a financial report reflecting assets of the club as of March 31, 2017. The club currently has \$1817.08 in the treasury. Income and expenses from January through March 2017: Membership Dues \$160.00 Memorial 252.20.
- Herb reported on Conservation Day at the Capitol, April 12 sponsored by CFM. The Small Mouth Alliance is looking for organization to form a coalition to address the shutting down of many of the gauging stations in Missouri. Herb also attended the committee hearing on Rep. Robert Ross' **House Bill 556 NAVIGABILITY OF MISSOURI'S WATERS** which could impact our sport by limiting access to many streams in Missouri.
- The Introduction to Fly Fishing for Boy Scout Troops 255th and 252nd conducted 12 April was discussed and the club should expect 4 boy scouts at the May meeting for casting lessons.
- The success of the stream team critter count turnout and collection was discussed.

Business.

- Membership voted to work with the Small Mouth Alliance in support of a coalition to address stream gages in Missouri.
- Discussion of creating a stable of fly rods for support of philanthropic activities by the club was discussed and a committee was formed with Reggie chairing the committee.
- Todd will be providing a schedule of programs for the club that will follow each monthly meeting.
- Final plans are being worked for the May 16th cookout. Please contact Lou if you are planning to attend so we can have an accurate headcount.

Activities Planned and Schedules

- Meetings and Tying dates:
 - 2 May Fly Tying, J Cook's Rod Shop 803 West Scenic Rivers Blvd in Salem, Missouri
 - 16 May Meeting/Cookout Roubidoux Park Waynesville. RSVP at least 72 hours prior.
- Fishing Dates and Locations:
 - 6 May Towel Lake at Little Prairie Conservation Area.
<https://extra.mdc.mo.gov/cgi-bin/atlas/gis4media.cgi?area=6316map>

Submitted by
Herbert Turner

Reggie and Mike have been spending their lunch time fishing a couple of the Ft. Leonard Wood ponds that are near the Prime Power School. Mike has had some real luck in a small mouse fly. Reggie has been trying various streamers and poppers.



On April 12th Lou, Todd, Reggie, Charlene and Herb conducted an Introduction to Fly Fishing workshop for Boy Scout Troops 255th and 252nd. The purpose was to stimulate interest in our sport and support the scouts in achieving the requirements for the Fly Fishing merit badge. There were seven scouts interested in the program along with about five adult leaders. The introduction consisted of three informational stations. The stations included an equipment station where Lou showed the scouts various tools of the trade for fishing, the second was a tying station where Todd demonstrated tying techniques and he tied several wooly buggers, the

last station was run by Reggie and Charlene where they went through the wild life code and some information on species identification. The night was topped off by Lou demonstrating some of the various casting techniques. We will be following up with the scouts later as they start work on the merit badge.



Linda managed to catch her first fish on a popping bug. And apparently she enjoyed it a bunch by the look on her face.





Todd's aquarium catch



Reggie's rods will catch fish, just in case you were wondering. I was talking to a client about fly rods and mentioned that I know a guy that builds rods. He was interested, so the next day I let him fish the rod that I bought from Reggie. After our day together I fished the rod a couple of hours before heading home and did very well with it.

Things To Enjoy Other Than Fish When Fishing by Sam

This may not be something that most of you would consider an enjoyable experience, but I did. After finishing a day of fishing with a client we were on our way back to the truck when my client stepped within 6 inches of this huge Copperhead. It was a cool day so it's movements

were not quick. I was standing about 6 feet away and could not get all of this huge snake in the frame. I estimated the length at least 4 feet and maybe 4 ½ . I have seen a lot of Copperheads and none of them were anywhere close to this one. I estimated the circumference at 6 inches. According to a friend of mine the longest Copperhead recorded in Missouri was 43 inches and the national record is 53. This could have been an overall record Copperhead.



Always take time to enjoy the things around you even if it's a Copperhead.

River Conditions The local streams are in flood stage.

For those of you that have not heard the Current River got up to 43 feet at Powder Mill. That's Eight feet higher than the Gasconade River at Jerome.





RiverRap

May 28, 2017

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Tuesday June 6 Tying' & Lying Rolla Pubic Library Children's Reading Room

Saturday June 11 Club outing to Siota Lake in St. James

Tuesday May 20 Club monthly meeting

Saturday June 24 Club outing to Meramec River

Other interests: June 17 Veterans Fly Fishing at Maramec Park

Roubidoux Fly Fishers Monthly Meeting Report ^B

Meeting 16 May, Waynesville City Park Pavilion #2.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM, quorum was established (9 members and 8 visitors present). Meeting was conducted after the cookout. Meeting was closed at 8:00 PM.

The main event 16 May was the annual cookout. Menu included bratwurst, burgers, and covered dishes. Three boy scouts with two leaders showed up and were provided casting lessons and a lot of individual practice time.

Reggie brought up rod building and some of his concerns. He also recommended we accept Batson Enterprises, Inc. donation of eight (5wt) rod blanks for building our loan rod stable. In exchange the club would include the company's web site link on our web site <http://batsonenterprises.com/> and provide contact information about the company as part of our newsletter. Motion carried.

The club will be once again be reducing the time for meetings to 30 minutes and will start up a program series after each meeting. At present some of the planned programs are Fly Fishing Entomology, Water Quality Entomology, Stream Visual Survey, Wading Safety, Casting, Leaders, Mill Creek, Westover, the State of Missouri Fisheries, etc. Please contact Todd if you have a program that you would like to share with the club or have any suggestions for a topic.

Activities Planned and Schedules

- Meetings and Tying dates:
 - 6 June Fly Tying, Rolla Public Library Children's Reading Room.
 - 20 June, Towne Suites meeting room, St. Robert
- Fishing Dates and Locations:

- 11 June Fishing Outing Siota Lake, St. James
 - 24 June Fishing Outing Meramec River, Woodson K Woods access, HWY 8.
- Veterans Fly Fishing 17 June, Meramec Spring Park. Sponsored by Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing (PHWFF), The James Foundation, and MDC. Any assistance would be appreciated. (contact Herb if you want to help)

Submitted by
Herbert Turner

Fishing Reports

Northern Pike presented by Rob

Greetings from northern Indiana. I caught my second northern ever a couple weeks ago, 31" of slime and teeth. It was a slow day, but I got lucky and caught him while bass fishing without a leader. Unfortunately, I had to recapture it after it lunged and pulled my stringer loose from the bank- note the water line on my pants..



I was able to convince a nice couple to take this picture for me, once they stopped laughing. I hope the floods didn't hit anyone too hard.

Tight lines, Rob

Bluegill Binge 2017 Presented by Lou



Imagine if you will, a week plus of fishing with friends for bluegill. That's right – a week plus (n this case 10 days), day in and day out, nothing but targeting bluegill. Of course we caught other things too – catfish, crappie, largemouth bass, redear, longear sunfish, green sunfish, a turtle, a snake BUT the TARGET is bluegill.



I did a little pre-fishing with Sharon on a private farm pond – bull bluegill and redear that did NOT want to come to hand. We were wore out by the end of the day – even though we only made it half way around and only fished for half a day! I can't imagine the muscle failure I would be in if we had fished all day and working our way ALL the way around the lake! An awesome day with an awesome friend.



The actual Bluegill Binge was held following the Smallmouth Rendezvous (held in Tahlequah, OK.). Flooding destroyed any thoughts of fishing the upper Illinois River for smallmouth bass. Off to the lakes we went and although they were cloudy fished just fine! Our first lake we went to twice, having found some bedding bluegill and redear. Friends joined us on the second day and were totally amazed at the fish we were all catching – 2 each 10” redear were the highlights!



My fly flinging gal pals and I fished farm ponds, public lakes and anywhere we thought we could catch anything with fins that swims. We had a BLAST!



Report by Sam

Stripers on the fly, usually always occurs in the spring when they are shallow enough to cast to while chasing Gizzard Shad that are spawning on the banks. I have made two trips this spring and only came up with White bass and Hybrids. My son went with me on the last trip and managed to catch his first and our only Stripper of the day.



Report by Sam

Grass Carp are a tough challenge, but they can be caught on the fly when all the planets and stars are aligned and the fishing gods are generous. Equipped with large lateral lines they sense the slightest noise and movements on the water and spook extremely easily. Matching the hatch has more to do with botany. Yes I have seen the videos of them being caught with corn flies and cherry tomato flies. But why would they feed on corn or tomatoes unless they were conditioned

to do so. Corn and tomatoes do not occur naturally in the lake. Yes, I agree with what you are thinking, the videos were shot after the carp were chummed a few days. They can be caught with fluffy cottonwood seed flies and the occasional Mulberry fly if a tree is near the water. They will feed on grass clippings from a mower blowing the clippings on the water. They will also feed on damsel and dragonfly nymphs, but more so when they are younger and more omnivorous. I have caught them on a very long leader presented as softly as possible and usually at a distance of 50+ feet. The fly must land in front of them within a couple of feet because they will not chase it. I am currently experimenting with some flies to help increase my chances. Expect the catching to be tough so take along some other flies just in case, as you may have to settle on bluegill or bass to keep from getting skunked, like I was the other day and settle for some bass with a “Lou Fly”



Flooding

Flooding is normal during the spring, but the flood we had the first of the month was one for the record books. Several of the outfitters that live along the rivers were covered up. Mark at Adventure Outdoors on the Meramec had flood waters up to the top of his roof. Lazy Day on the Big Piney barely survived. Route 66 on the Big Piney was almost wiped out. The little village of Thomasville on the Eleven Point is all but gone. Cabins and homes on the North Fork are gone and Bridges were washed away. The Gasconade, Big Piney, Current, and North Fork all had record setting levels. The Current River at Power Mill was 43 feet, the North Fork was estimated at 42 feet. A month of revenue was lost by outfitters and as you know their seasons are short to begin with, much less the loss of property they sustained so it was a double whammy. We work closely with these people so let us not forget to use their services when we can to help them out.

Things To Enjoy Other Than Fish When Fishing by Sam

Occasionally take the time to enjoy things around you that don't involve a fish on the end of your line. I like to watch Minks scurrying along the river bank and diving for food, or Kingfishers trying to catch minnows. Looking for insects hatching and trying to catch them can be an adventure in its self. I lost a good pair of Smith sunglasses catching Caddis with my hat one evening, when I forgot they were on my hat at the time.



I found this Dragon Fly emerging at the lake

River Conditions The local streams are still a little cloudy from the recent flushing of the springs, but should clear this week. Fishing conditions are excellent, but expect to see a reduction of micros this year after the enormous flooding. As an example, the amount of Tricos we have observed after the last few years of extreme flooding, are significantly less than in previous years and this year I expect the trend to continue. Terrestrial season is here take advantage of some good dry fly action when there are no hatches or very light hatches.





RiverRap

June 30, 2017

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Saturday July 8 Club outing to Current River Tan Vat Access

Tuesday July 18 Club Meeting at Town Suites in St Robert. Starts at 6:30

Sunday July 23 Club outing 11 Point River Greer access

Roubidoux Fly Fishers Monthly Meeting Report

Meeting 20 June, Towne Suites St. Robert Missouri

Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM, quorum was established (6 members present).

Reports.

Welcome Rick O'Mara.

Herb reported on the club's support of Veterans fishing Day 17 June at Maramec Spring Park. 99 veterans fished to include residents of the Missouri Veterans' Home, St James. 132 people were in attendance which included family members, staff from the Missouri Veterans' Home, St James, the host organization Project Healing Waters of Jefferson Barracks, members of the Daughters of the American Revolution (provided funding for the lunch meal), James Foundation, Missouri Department of Conservation staff, and 3 members of the Roubidoux Fly Fishers (Reggie, Stacey, and Herb). RFFA members assisted veterans with fishing and taught some fly casting. Lou and Todd reported on the upcoming rod building activity. Reggie will be conducting the instruction for rod building and the dates right now for building are 11, 18, and 25 July. Due to the nature of the building process the dates are subject to change to continuous dates for ease in the construction (watch for emails with specifics). To build a rod you must make the first two meetings.

Program.

Flex Coat Rod Building "How We Do It"

Activities Planned and Schedules

- Meetings and Tying dates:
 - No tying in July due to 4th of July is tying date
 - Meeting 18 July and may possibly be dedicated to rod building (check for future emails)

- Fishing Dates and Locations:
 - 8 July Tan Vat access Current River just outside of Montauk State Park
 - 23 July Eleven Point River Greer access for rainbow trout. Water craft desired, limited wade fishing.

Submitted by

Herbert Turner

Fishing Reports

Mike had a wonderful month of fishing. He caught 8 different species of fish from 16-19 June and only fished the Big Piney near the spill way at Fort Leonard Wood and the Roubidoux in and around the spring. His catch for those four days included: Smallmouth, Largemouth, Goggle-eye (Rock Bass), Crappie, Pumpkinseed Sunfish, Gar, Freshwater drum (White Drum), and Rainbow Trout. He also was successful at Stone Mill Spring catching 20 Rainbows on just about every cast on 21 June.



Lake Scioto in St. James has provided a lot of sport for many club members this month. Todd and Herb started out on 9 June and had a lot of success for only fishing together for about an hour. Todd caught a Bass and several Bluegill. Herb continued to catch for an hour Bluegill after Todd went to work. Rick caught his first Bluegill on a fly rod the afternoon of the 17th.

Green sunfish are aggressive little feeders and provide good top water action.

Molar Pond on Ft. Leonard Wood has been providing Mike, Reggie, and Herb early morning entertainment for the last three weeks of the month of June. Mike and Reggie have had success retrieving Bass from this little pond across from the Prime Power School. Herb has been averaging five Bluegill from the pond during his last 5 visits before work. The real twist is the post is in the process of dredging the pond for sediment analyses.



Fishing Reports from Lou

Fishing report for June

June was a whirlwind month full of family, friends and fishing!

The month started with friends gathering at Pomme de Terre Lake where we fished for bluegill on the beds under the picnic tables in the campgrounds. Yes bluegill on the beds in the beginning of June under the picnic tables. Pomme de Terre Lake was pretty full – so full some of the campsites on the lake were flooded, which presented a golden opportunity – not just for the bluegill but for a gathering of friends. The way they construct their campsites for the tents is by framing out the outline of the campsite with 4X4s and then filling it with 1” gravel topped off with pea gravel. This is a bedding scenario right out of the Taj Mahal for a bluegill! And for us was a little piece of heaven here on earth. If we got the cast between the picnic table and the fire pit we would get a 8-9” bluegill every time. The 10” were under the picnic tables. Oh it wasn’t without peril though – cast too high and you went into the trees; set the hook straight up and it went in the trees; let the fly sink too much and it would get caught on something. Thus we would figure out what fly was working then pass that rod around till it got stuck or hung up & broke off. And as that fly rod was getting another fly tied on a different rod in waiting would be pressed into service. As much as it sounds like out and out mayhem – it worked fantastic!! The favorite combo was the Round Dinny on a Winston!!



Mayhem upon mayhem – the following Thursday I was with another club at Mountain Springs Trout Park. If you have never been there trust me on this – just get a bigger net. Or better yet borrow one of theirs. These fish are ginormous! One of the members from SMFF arranged for us to have our meeting there so of course we just happened to go fishing too. I had to try my favorite fly to catch anything on - a JR's Predator and it did not disappoint until it got torn up too much to float. The trout were taking surface flies and the faster the short strips the better. JR's Predator, Gurlgers and even a Stealth Bomber almost lost forever in the bottom of the fly box (sans rubber legs – where did they go?) caught fish after fish after fish till they were nothing but a bit of foam and a hook. A wonderful evening fishing with old friends can't hardly be beat.



There was time for a little fishing the Sunday before the reunion really got going so with my trusty 4 wt rod in hand Todd and myself met up for the club outing at one of my favorite walk around ponds - Lake Scioto in St James on Sunday the 11th. There were still bluegill on the beds and some really mean mean green sunfish too! I arrived late and Todd had already scoped out (and fished too) across the dam and into the first little cove. The weeds had already started around the lake but most the fish if not on the bed seemed to be just on the other side of it. Casting in a few places was challenging – Todd even pulled the bow & arrow cast out of his arsenal in one spot. We scored some really nice bluegill, great mean greens and a few smallish bass. As usual a very nice outing!



Then it was time for a family reunion. Some came down from Alaska and others up from New Mexico. For a week we visited, celebrated a 35th wedding anniversary, admired how kids had grown AND one day took everyone over to Bennett Springs for a little trout fishing. I am happy to report everyone who wanted to catch fish except one who refused to use what the fish were biting on. I must confess though – I was a little disappointed the kids were mostly catching Sculpins, but then I got a life lesson – to a kid a fish is a fish is a fish! They were happy and having fun so I joined them in celebrating every catch too!



Great Photo !!! Love to see kids fishing

Sunday evening after everyone was safely home was a great evening to decompress, pull out the fly rod and head over to my other favorite walk around lake – TA 250 on Ft Leonard Wood. It is about a ½ mile walk around with access to the lake if you don't mind going thru a LOT of weeds. Again the mean greens, bluegill, longear and a few of the smaller bass did not disappoint on a popper. The biggest surprise was like trolls under a bridge there were to 2 VERY large carp caught in the overflow shoot. Fly shy they were impossible to catch. I will try a sneakier approach next time!

Then there was a float trip with friends on the Big Piney. Smallmouth bass, mean greens, longears, a handful of bluegill and a few what appeared to be redear sunfish were all brought to hand while enjoying the day between Dog's Bluff Access and Mineral Springs. Having never floated that section of the BP before I cannot say exactly how rearranged the floods did however we did run aground quite often and in one place actually had to drag kayaks about 50'. Someone has gone thru with a chain saw and cut a most trees so folks could get thru so we didn't have but one of those as a hazard. One of my friends tied on a brown fuzzy looking fly and didn't have to change it all day! I tried a few flies but finally settled on my favorite – a popper. The weather was perfect and so was the float. Another great day for sure.

And June is not over yet!!

Tightlines!
Louisa Runnalls



Todd and Linda fished the Meramec River at Highway 8

Top Water Action presented by Sam

I recently had a day that I could fish instead of watching clients fish. I had had plenty of exposure to stocked trout and lots of fishing pressure and I needed to get away for some quiet fishing on private water. What a joy to be able to fish without listening to loud noises from floaters and other fishermen. The quiet sport hasn't been quiet for me over the past weeks. Top water fishing for smallmouth is one of my favorite ways to fish. The great thing about fishing warm water fishes is that you never know what will take the fly. Just like the report above about Mike catching several species on the Big Piney. The action is almost all day long, even if they are only sunfish it's still fun to see fish take a fly on top.



Longear Sunfish about average size to be able to eat a size 4 popper.

Smallmouth with possible Osprey scars

River Conditions The local streams are in excellent condition and fishing has been excellent. Dry flies and terrestrials are producing well. As we get into the heat of summer night, early morning and evening become the better times to fish.





RiverRap

July 31, 2017

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Tuesday August 1st Tying & Lying J Cook's Rod Shop 6:30
Saturday August 13th Club Outing Gasconade River at Hazelgreen
Tuesday August 15th Club Meeting
Saturday August 26th Club Outing Big Piney River at Highway Y

Roubidoux Fly Fishers Monthly Meeting Report

Meeting 18 July, American Legion Post 331, 484 Saint Robert Outer Road, St Robert.

Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM, quorum was established (8 members present). 1 visitor present.

Reports.

Brett sent in a financial report reflecting assets of the club. The club currently has \$1817.08 in the treasury. Short meeting due to the three day rod building activity. Key dates of interest discussed and programs for follow up meetings.

Key dates of interest:

International Fly Fishing Fair Livingston, MT Aug. 1-5.

Kiwanis of Pulaski County Gun, Knife, and Archery Show St. Robert Community Center St. Robert, MO Sept. 16-17 (RFFA information booth). **Member needed to man the booth.**

TU 2017 Annual Meeting in Roanoke, VA Sept. 27-30.

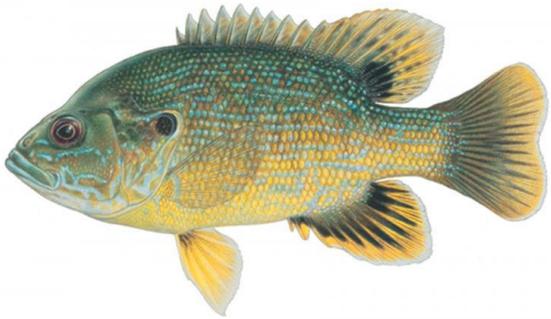
Fly Fishers International Southern Council 2017 Fly Fishing Fair campus of Arkansas State University Mountain Home, AR Oct. 6-7.

Activities Planned and Schedules

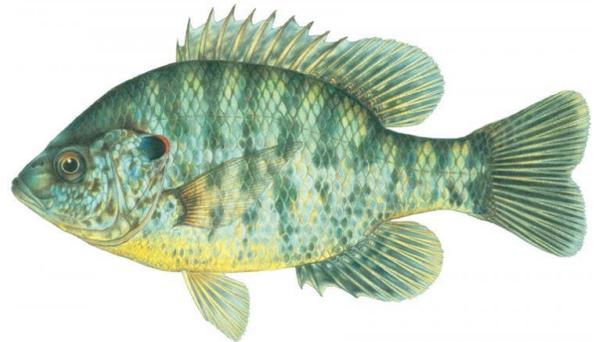
- Meetings and Tying dates:
 - 1 August Fly Tying, J Cook's Rod Shop 803 West Scenic Rivers Blvd in Salem, Missouri
 - 15 August Monthly Meeting (Lou will be presenting information on her latest trip to Canada)
 - Fishing Dates and Locations:
 - 13 August Gasconade River @ Hazelgreen (wade or float)
 - 26 August Big Piney River @ Hwy Y (wade or float)
- Locations subject to change

Submitted by
Herbert Turner

Missouri's Sunfish Family



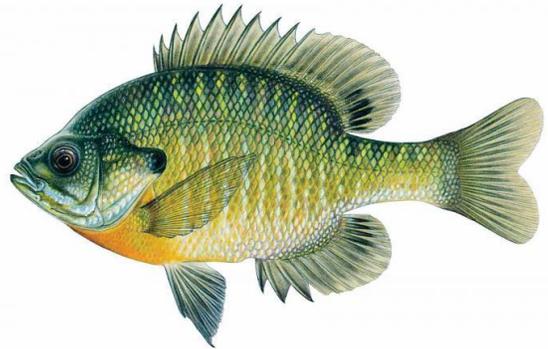
Green Sunfish



Redear Sunfish



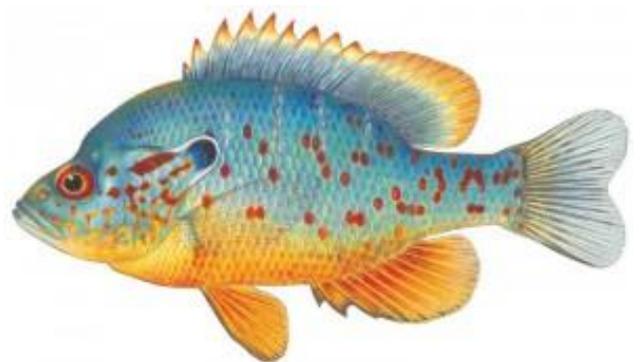
Longear Sunfish



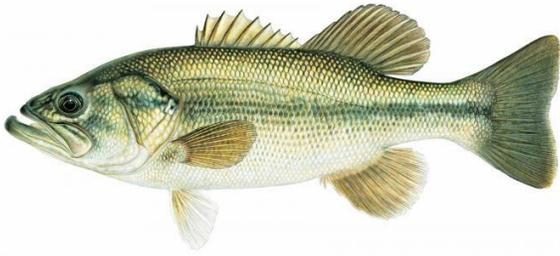
Bluegill



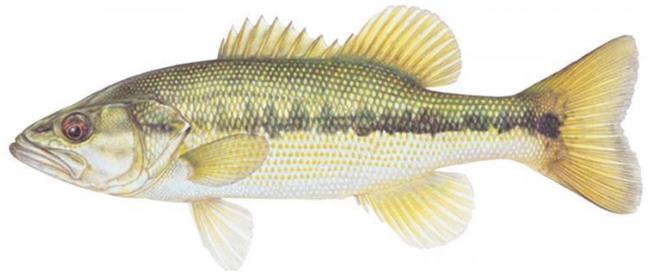
Pumpkinseed Sunfish



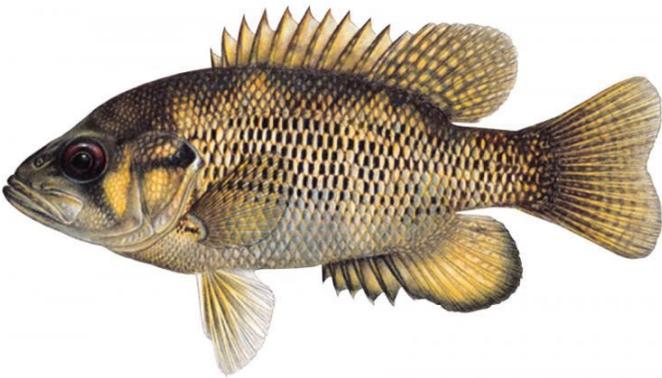
Orangespotted Sunfish



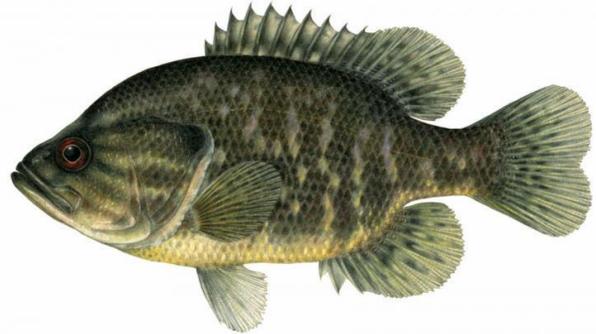
Largemouth Bass



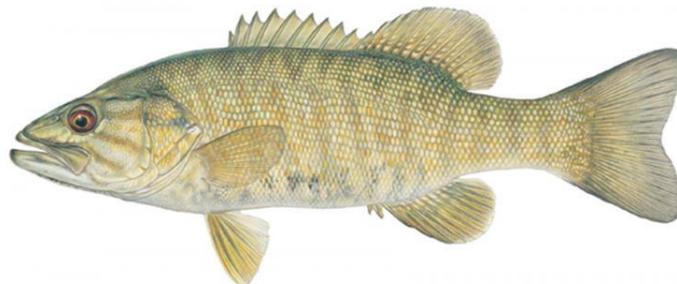
Spotted Bass/ Kentucky Bass



Rock Bass / Goggle Eye



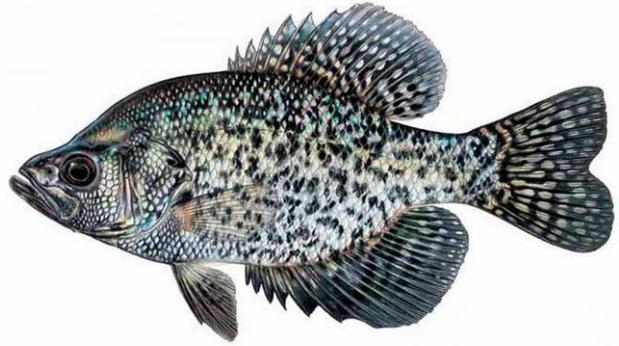
Warmouth



Smallmouth Bass



White Crappie



Black Crappie

All photos borrowed from MDC website or online

Fishing Reports

Todd Sparks Report

I was fishing the hole just up river from the family cabin. I hadn't really spent much time out there since the flooding in May, so I didn't really know what to expect. I saw a log in the river root wad upstream, maybe 6 feet from the river right bank. The current had dug a channel between the log and an undercut bank. I figured that had to be a home for somebody.

My first cast was greeted by a chase from a ~10" largemouth. Before he could take my streamer, a huge smallie came from the undercut and ate him. I had really no idea who ate what at first, so I did a huge strip set, but no joy.

I cast at that spot for another hour. Before I left, I waded up to the hole to see it was still home. The big smallmouth sullenly swam upstream when I got too close.

I went back 2 days later to try again. On my first cast, the fish came out to look at the fly but didn't take. On my second cast, the fish just slowly swam up the river. I didn't see it again that day.

Sam Potter Report

My clients and I have been fishing top water almost all month. The Smallmouth have been very cooperative along with a few Largemouth in the slower water and Spotted Bass. There are some Longear Sunfish spawning now and they have never met a fly they didn't like.



The great thing about fishing top water on the rivers is the variety you can catch on the same fly. We have been targeting Smallmouth but you never know what will come up to eat. This Bluegill isn't a monster by any means, but this is a big Bluegill for the river. We are also catching Redear, Green Sunfish, Longear Sunfish, and Rockbass (Goggle Eye). Most of the Smallmouth are 10-14 inches with some 15-17s and a few 18+.



This one was probably close to 2.5 lb. Very good length average thickness. My boat net is 20 x 18



This one exploded out of the water on the fly from down deep. About 2 ¼



This one is the largest this month pushing 3 lb. Good length great depth and thickness. When the big ones are aggressive and they want it they don't waste any time.

River Conditions The local streams are a little low to normal for this time of year. Some of them like the Big Piney and Little Piney have off color water. Good for fishing, but hard for sight fishing and for fish to see you.





RiverRap

August 31, 2017

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Tuesday September 5th Tying & Lying
Saturday September 9th Club Outing
Tuesday September 19th Club Meeting
Saturday September 23rd Club Outing

Roubidoux Fly Fishers Monthly Meeting Report

Meeting 15 August, Towne Suites St. Robert Missouri

Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM, quorum was established (4 members present and 2 call in).

Reports.

Reggie is working on the fly rod stable. He has six of the eight fly rods and the other two need to have wrapping finished and will be given to Reggie as soon as they are ready.

Members are needed to run the booth at the Kiwanis Eighth Annual Gun, Knife and Archery Show time: Sept 16, 9 AM to 5 PM and Sept 17, 9 AM to 3 PM.

Future program topics were presented and suggested dates. October meeting will be moved to the Waynesville City Park the club will be practice casting as the program. Other programs may cause the movement of the meeting to an appropriate location due to the activity.

Fall water quality monitoring will be conducted 23 September on the Roubidoux Creek at Waynesville City Park followed by monthly scheduled fishing.

Lou was in charge of this month's program and presented information on her trip to Fireside Lodge Little Vermillion Lake in Sioux Lookout Ontario, Canada.

Activities Planned and Schedules

- Meetings and Tying dates:
 - Tying 5 September Rolla Library on Pine Street
 - Meeting 19 September/ program Macro-invertebrate Identification
- Fishing Dates and Locations:
 - 9 September Current River Baptist Camp
 - 23 September Roubidoux Creek Waynesville City Park

Submitted by
Herbert Turner

Fishing Reports

Have you ever been told over and over and over again you should go fish somewhere? Well, Steve Jensen of SMFF has told a few of us we need to fish Canada for Northern Pike and Smallmouth Bass for a few years now. Finally the planets and stars aligned and I went with gal pal Deb and a bunch of the guys – Larry, Jerry, Ralph, Steve (of course) and Natalie & Judi.

What a HOOT!! We started prep for this trip last year, making our reservations and then really concentrated on getting a bunch of Murdich Minnows tied (at least a dozen each of 4 different sizes – GREAT GOOGLY MOOGLY if I EVER tie another it will be too soon!!) plus a bunch of other pike flies like bunny leeches; tying up leaders (the weeds there can be pretty wicked on a regular leader) and so forth and so on. Needless to say our anticipation levels were pretty high by the time it came to leave. Fireside Lodge out of Sioux Lookout was our home for the week.

Located on the Little Vermillion Lake it was a wonderful place to stay with plenty of food and smiles from the staff at our hilarious antics. Our cabin comfortably fit 4 people with plenty of room for gear and fly rods everywhere (not sure the maids appreciated that though!).

The first day Deb (who thankfully ran the boat the whole time with me as anchor witch) followed the guys up the creek with the paddles to Muskie Lake. Seriously – a 45 minute boat ride up a creek full of switch backs, a beaver dam, root wads, tufts of dirt, vegetation, logs, etc., etc. Was it worth it? YES!!! We were in the target zone – 8 – 10’ of water with weeds. Nothing, nothing, nothing – are they even looking at the fly? Pull it across the bow slowly and OH MY what was that following it? I GOT A FOLLOW!!! Deb did the same and got a follow too! We – Deb & I finally started letting our flies really sink and started to get hook ups. OUR FIRST NORTHERN PIKE ON FLY RODS!! That was the beginning of a wonderful week full of toothy critters with a mouth full of teeth & bad intent who would rake a finger if we didn’t pay attention and some football sized smallmouth bass. As the sun set on our last day and the loons called to each other we all vowed as Arnold did “I’ll be back!”



Football season is here and Lou was making some great catches. The footballs in Canada are darker than the ones we have here in the Ozarks. Lou’s friend Deb with her first Pike.



Lou shows off her best football of the week and a Tiger Muskie



Lou's first Pike on a

fly and her last football of the trip caught on top water

Boot Pierce

I hooked up with Tom DeHart from Tri-Lakes Fly Fishers one afternoon before MS&T classes started and fished Westover Farms. Tom fished Hoppers and I fished midges. We both had a great day and landed several large fish. Here is Tom with just a sample of the days catch. Second photo includes a small Palomino Rainbow that Tom landed.



Sam

This beauty was caught in a pouring down rain storm, hence the water spots on the camera lens. We had to pull the boat over and bail out four inches of water right after this one was released.



River Conditions The local stream flows are above normal for this time of year. The Big Piney and Little Piney still have off color water which is good for fishing, The Current River is still a little cloudy and Meramec Spring is pushing a good amount of water for late August early September. Best water conditions for this time of year since I can't remember when.





RiverRap

Oct 8, 2017

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Saturday October 14th Club Outing
Tuesday September 17th Club Meeting
Sunday September 29th Club Outing

Roubidoux Fly Fishers Monthly Meeting Report ³

Meeting 19 September, Towne Suites St. Robert Missouri

Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM, quorum was established 5 members present.

Reports.

Discussion of the results from the Kiwanis Eighth Annual Gun, Knife and Archery Show time: Sept 16 -17.

Final checks for the fall water quality monitoring 23 September on the Roubidoux Creek at Waynesville City Park.

Herb was in charge of this month's program and presented information on Macro-invertebrate Identification. Materials from the Missouri Stream Team Program were used to enhance the program presentation. The program provided an opportunity for members not familiar with the intro level water quality program by the Missouri Stream Team Program to become familiar with identification prior to being on the water 23 September.

Activities Planned and Schedules

- Meetings and Tying dates:
 - Tying 3 October Rolla Library on Pine Street
 - Meeting 17 October Waynesville City Park/ program Casting/Casting practice

- Fishing Dates and Locations:
 - 14 October Big Piney off J
 - 29 October Little Piney, Lane Spring

Submitted by
Herbert Turner

Todd watched this and wanted to share it with everyone:

This is a bit about salmon from PBS Deep Look. I had not viewed them as a nutrient pipeline for an otherwise unproductive area, but it makes complete sense when considered in this fashion.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rZWWh5acBE>

Fishing Reports

The first photo was taken on the Current River two weeks ago. Just like any other trout photo right?.... Wrong. I have only seen these markings on a trout in three other locations. Twice on the Little Piney, Three times on Crane Creek and the headwaters of the McCloud river. I have probably seen a couple of thousand trout caught on the Current River and this is the first one I have seen with these markings. Very few if any spots below the lateral line, large and spaced spotting above the lateral line and then of course all the other common markings..white tipped fins, orange spot top of dorsal, bright red cheeks and sides, orange cutthroat.

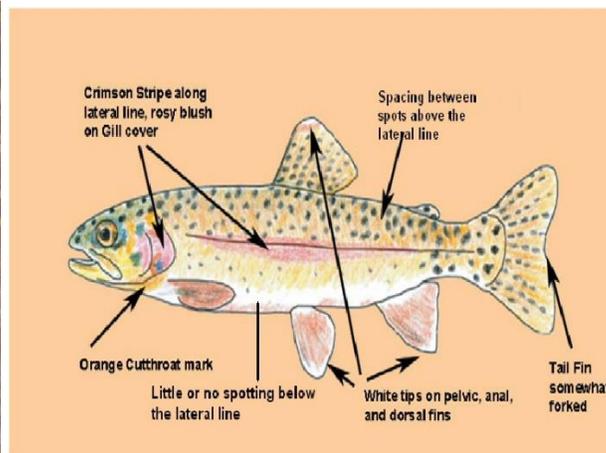
Current River two weeks ago



Little Piney several years ago



The photo below is what we typically see on our stocked rainbow trout. McCloud River Redband



Top water action for smallmouth has been very good to excellent over the past couple of weeks. On the very bright sunny days we have had to target shade. Look for a combination of shade, structure and current. Keeping two rods ready in the boat has been the ticket.. When the above scenario is absent get down at least five feet and fish structure.... No structure - don't fish it.

River Conditions The local stream flows are very low. September was an extremely dry month. I'm afraid that the plunder of Brown trout on spawning redds this month will be one of the worst ever.





RiverRap

November 5, 2017

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Tuesday November 7th Tying & Lying
Saturday September 18th Club Meeting

Roubidoux Fly Fishers Monthly Meeting Report

Meeting 17 October, Waynesville City Park Waynesville Missouri

Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM, 4 members present.

No Reports.

Discussion of "Freeze Your Trout Off" scheduled for Bennett Spring State Park (pot luck lunch) email should be out for attendance purposes. Discussion of having a booth at the St. Robert Sportsman Show.

Casting Practice until dark was the program.

Activities Planned and Schedules

- Meetings and Tying dates:
 - Tying 7 November, J Cook's Shop in Salem Missouri 6:30
 - No Meeting for the month of November instead "Freeze Your Trout Off" 18 November, look for the club sign in the parking area near the spring. Pot Luck Chile Lunch.

Submitted by
Herbert Turner

Fishing Reports

I had to push my annual steelhead trip back a little this year because of all the high water. We actually didn't know how the river was going to fish with a CFS a tad over 1400. The normal flow is about 600 for this time of the year. The river was a cool 42 degrees with a dark tea stain, so visibility was going to be limited. The stream crested two days earlier at 2400 and was dropping. The weather forecast for the week would be a pleasant low 30s to mid 40s with rain, sleet, snow and wind. It was going to be perfect weather for Steelhead fishing. We floated the first day and the fourth day and walked in to some places the rest of the week. With all the high water the previous week the stream had a ton of migraters in the system. All we had to do was find out where they were holding and figure out what color they preferred. We usually go with brighter colors and heavier tippet in dark water and lighter colors and lighter tippet in clear water. With the forecast for cloudy conditions and off colored water there was a very good chance they would be holding in shallower water in feeding lanes and they were. We fished that pattern for the first 4 days with great success. On the fifth day the river was clearing up pretty good and a high front came in with bright sunny skies, which makes for crappy days Steelhead fishing, and it did. We only had nine hookups between us on the last day compared to 73 hookups for the previous 4 days. Sometimes the stars all line up and you have the opportunity for a lifetime trip. We landed 41 Steelhead in 5 days and just a tad under 50% landing ratio, which for this stream is a great ratio with all the timber and snags in the river. It has been several years since we have had a trip like this one. There were lots of fish and several double digit fish on this trip. I'm sure there will be some 20+ pounders caught this winter.



This was my largest for the trip 14-15lbs and this one is more of the typical size, that are 6-8 pounds

River Conditions The local stream flows are about normal for this time of year and clear. Fishing can get tough with clear water and may require finer tippet sizes.





RiverRap

December 28, 2017

Upcoming Events to Note on Your Calendar

Tuesday January 2nd Fly Tying
Tuesday January 16th Club Meeting
January 28th or 29th Possible Club Outing at Westover Farms

Roubidoux Fly Fishers Monthly Meeting Report ¹³

Meeting 19 December 2017 at Towne Suites, St. Robert
Meeting called to order at 6:35 P.M., a quorum was not established (4 members present).

Lou presented the quarterly financial report of a balance of \$1652.89.
Herb showed off a new Tenkara Rod. Some discussion of the success of club members fishing at Montauk State Park. We have set March 10th for an MSA / Roubidoux FFFA event at the Piney River Brewery in Bucyrus. "Ty One On For Tryon"

It is time again to pay annual dues, contact Lou.

Program: Trivia Night. Questions came from the Dancing Mayfly (The Fly Fishing Trivia Game by dancingmayfly.com).

Activities Planned and Schedules:

Tying at the Rolla Public Library Children's Reading Room 2 January 2018 at 6:30.

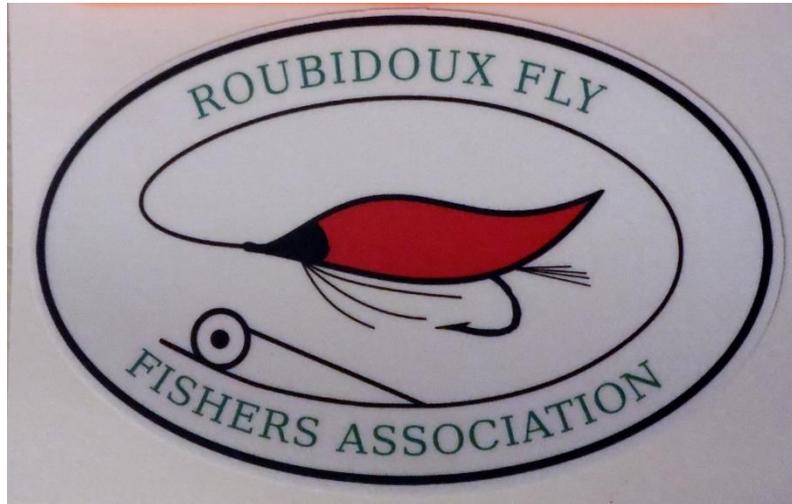
Monthly Meeting at Towne Suites 16 January 2018 at 6:30.

Possible Club Outing at Westover Farms on January 27th or 28th Look for details in your email.

Charlene & Herb Turner
The Turner Clan

DUES ARE DUE!! For a measly \$20 a year you not only get our wonderful monthly newsletter, but 12 club meetings and 12 tying session with the camaraderie of your fellow fly flingers!!! Please pay Lou at a tying session or club meeting - make sure she writes it down!! OR if you absolutely HAVE to - mail it to L Runnalls, PO 2404, Ft Leonard Wood, MO 65473. Make sure you tell Lou who it's for or it turns into a donation!!

Up for sale - some great stickers!! Rep your club by buying one or two or three or four for the car/truck, kayak, boat, iPad cover, lap top top, RV, gifts, and just general principle. \$2.00!!! Can't beat that price with a stick!!



Lou will have some at meetings and some at tying so get yours before their all gone!!!

Report by Herb Turner:

On December 20th, Herb had the opportunity to be a guest on the radio show Wild At Heart hosted by Jerry Cook, owner of Jerry Cook's Fly Rods in Salem, MO. Wild At Heart is broadcast each Wednesday at 5 PM on ESPN 107.3 FM in Rolla Missouri. Jerry and Herb filled the hour with discussions about fly-fishing in the Ozarks, the role Roubidoux Fly Fishers played in working with the Missouri Conservation Federation and the leadership role the club took on in making the Missouri Stream Team a success in the state, the clubs support to youth and education, as well as spreading the word about the Roubidoux Fly Fishers in the Rolla, Waynesville, St. Robert area.



Charlene & Herb Turner
The Turner Clan

Fishing Reports

Report by Lou

Report #1

On 17 December our two diehard fly flingers met for the RFFA Outing to Montauk State Park. There was nary another soul in the park on our arrival except two who were fashionably dressed in checkered flannel shirts. They departed rather swiftly when the rain started.

Although fishing the same area as Todd and with the same fly - because he gave me his - I seemed to be able to only catch the ones recently released from the kiddie pool - my whopper of the day was maybe 8 inches and still adorned with par marks. But what fun on a dry fly!!!

Todd, on the other hand, after giving me his parachute fly, pulled out the big guns and started to throw one of those 6" or so streamers he so enjoys enticing the big ones with. He was able to bring a few to hand and eventually got the target fish hooked and to hand. Guestimate the length at about 20"+ and a solid 2-3 pounds.



Todd says “This guy took a #2/0 white Murdich minnow after I gave up on trout flies because I kept catching too many tiny fish.”

As we were leaving I noticed a HUGE tail fining under one of the skyhooks on our side of the stream. Eventually curiosity got the better of us and as I nudged it out of it's hiddy hole, Todd stood ready to vid this fish. Turns out there is a hook jawed brown trout in the catch and release stream. It looked like a butter football from our angle.

Report #2

On the last warm day of the year I pulled out the Tenkara rod and decided to try my luck before the cold forced me into semi hibernation (where I am writing this report since it is a whopping 14° outside right now). Water of choice was the Big Piney below Stone Mill. Tying on an olive jig head I swung the fly thru some likely looking water and was rewarded with one smallmouth, one shiner and one redear sunfish. I missed too many hits to mention.

As I was leaving and putting my rod back together I heard a splash downstream and looked up in time to see the rings of a rising fish.

Going back to packing up my gear and heard a big kasplash and looked up just in time to see a bald eagle carrying off a fish - maybe even the one I had just seen the rise rings from. A great memory to carry me thru these very cold months.



Report by Sam

I enjoy fishing in the winter because I don't have to worry seeing anyone else that could crowd my space.. I have always had a need for my fishing space and the winter months provide that. I enjoy fishing with other fishermen, but I also enjoy fishing alone. The smallmouth catching this winter has been tough with the extremely low and clear water, but I have managed to lip a few nice ones.



River Conditions The local stream flows are very low and very clear. The wild rainbows have spawned and some are still spawning at this writing.

